

# IRISH SPECIMEN FISH 2022



**ANNUAL REPORT OF  
THE IRISH SPECIMEN  
FISH COMMITTEE**



Iascaich Irithe Éireann  
Inland Fisheries Ireland



**DAERA**  
Department of Agriculture,  
Food and Rural Affairs

Website: [www.specimenfish.ie](http://www.specimenfish.ie)

Coiste Éisc Mór na hÉirinn

# The Irish Specimen Fish Committee

Founded in 1955, the ISFC is an independent voluntary body, representative of angling interests in Ireland, whose principal function is to verify, record and publicise the capture of large (i.e. specimen) fish caught on rod and line by anglers in Ireland, both in freshwater and marine waters. The Committee also ratifies Irish record rod caught fish. The ISFC coordinates and administers the unique specimen awards scheme which is designed to recognise any angler who catches a specimen fish and to publicise the angling venue. Successful anglers are awarded a certificate and a commemorative badge. Specially commissioned silver medals are presented to captors of record fish and special awards are also made to captors of multiple specimen fish (on a cumulative basis). This report is a detailed listing of all particulars relating to specimen and record fish captures in Irish waters in 2022. Over 32,000 claims have been received by the ISFC over the past 67 years. This dataset is one of the longest time-series of its type.

## Irish Specimen Fish Committee Members 2022

Dr. Robert Rosell (*AFBI*), Chairman, Dr. William Roche, Secretary, Shane O'Reilly, Treasurer, Myles Kelly and Micheál Hennessy (*Inland Fisheries Ireland*), Alan McGurdy, Glenda Powell, Stewart McGrane (*Game Angling*), Dr. Edward Fahy, Der Casey (*Coarse Angling*) and Brian Cooke (*Sea Angling*).

*Awards Presentation*

*Anglers due awards for 2022  
are invited to attend the*

*Presentation of Specimen Awards at the  
Clayton Hotel Leopardstown, Dublin  
at 2.00 pm on 11th March 2023*



**Irish Specimen Fish Committee**



**In Association with**

**Iascach Intíre Éireann  
Inland Fisheries Ireland**

***Cover: Tope of 160.5 cm for Joseph Brady at Roney Point, Wexford in mid June 2022.***

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# ISFC Chairman's Report 2022



ISFC has completed its 2022 meetings, including the review of the year's claims, a marathon session, completed with a near full Committee assembled in person. Specimen fish claims submitted this year ranged from Gudgeon at 14 cm, to one of our largest species, porbeagle shark. It was a pleasure to get back to the detail and subtlety of discussion that online meetings just do not do as well. Thanks to all claimants for the generally very high standard of evidence presented.

There was meticulous discussion around possible new records which are currently exclusively weight-based. Candidate weight-based records were considered for Gilthead Bream and Gudgeon. For the first time in ISFC history, two fish, Gilthead Bream of identical weight, were caught by different anglers in 2022, and later ratified as new Irish records. For smaller species (< 1 kg) the Committee has decided that weight-based claims will have to be presented in grammes to allow for clearer discrimination of size. Submissions for new smaller species potentially approaching length-based record awards included Corkwing wrasse and Shore rockling. At the other end of the size range, some very large Porbeagle sharks were reported, which cannot be weighed at sea, but which otherwise could tantalisingly have included a record. The humble Gudgeon and huge Porbeagle shark between them re-triggered difficult discussions around the potential of incorporating length-based records, and how this might be achieved, while respecting the old weight-based records. Working within current rules, the 2022 new record Gudgeon will be expressed as a weight. This is despite being a "new" species recently added to the specimen listing. From 2023 onwards the few new species without an existing weight-based record will be eligible for granting record status based purely on length.

Length is internationally the most common means of recording the largest fish, from snout to fork of tail for freshwater species and total length for marine fish. There is much sense to this - most fish species while growing in length through a lifespan, will gain and lose weight with seasonal changes in condition and through spawning. Length-based specimen reporting options continue to be rolled out for new species based on data available. Nevertheless, the committee clearly has considerable work to do setting criteria of due merit for awarding a new length based record status before considering any set of alternative length-based records.

Length measurements are easier to report, but just as for weights, must be made with appropriate consistency and proper equipment. We noted, with interest, valiant efforts to measure sharks in the water against a measuring mat alongside a smallish boat, for fish and angler welfare reasons, and while these fish clearly exceeded specimen length, difficulties in photographically capturing an accurate length made it difficult for ISFC to report an exact length. At the other end of the size scale, the inclusion of length-based recording for smaller species, has re-iterated the need for clear measuring mats or boards with head stop and the whole fish photographed and showing clearly appropriate measuring scale intervals.

Other ongoing projects for ISFC include finalising the Specimen Fish Atlas and working with an app developer towards a smartphone based specimen reporting system in addition to existing options of emailed or posted form and photos.

We also continue reviewing individual species specimen thresholds, to maintain and control claims flow, avoid domination of the list by one species, or optimise the balance between length and weight-based data. Over 20% of claims in 2022 were for spurdog, but for once we opted not to increase the specimen threshold, in light of the EU and UK lifting of the ban on commercial fishing for spurdog, following the ICES note of stock recovery, and anticipating a potential impact of any resumed fishery.

As Chair, and on behalf of Committee and all who benefit from the work of ISFC, I thank Inland Fisheries Ireland, DAERA, Anglers and other sponsors who fund or otherwise assist ISFC, provide the venues for committee meetings or allow their staff to participate. In return we offer the report as an advert for the best of the angling experience that Ireland and Northern Ireland can offer. I wish the best of luck (as well as outworking of knowledge and skill!) to all big fish chasers in 2023.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'R. Rosell'.

Dr Robert Rosell, Chairman ISFC

March, 2023

# Report of the Irish Specimen Fish Committee 2022

In 2022 the ISFC processed 461 claims. A total of 10 were rejected for non-compliance with ISFC rules and another 15 will be queried further. This report presents details of special awards and ratified specimen fish for 2022.

## New Irish Records

For fish exceeding the current Irish record weight



*Gudgeon 51.02 g, Portna Canal, 26 Feb 2022, Terry Jackson, Co. Down*



*Gilthead Bream of 3.742 kg, Rosscarbery, 22 Aug 2022, Robert Quin, Cork  
New Gilthead Bream Record, jointly held with David Brennan*

## SPECIAL AWARDS CATEGORIES 2022

20 SPECIES AWARD			
DONAL DOMENEY, CORK			
1984	Angler Fish	2009	Cuckoo Wrasse
1993	European Seabass	2010	Ballan Wrasse
1997	Ray - Painted	2015	Bluemouth
2003	Pouting	2015	Ray - Homelyn
2004	Whiting	2018	Plaice
2005	Coalfish (Saithe)	2020	Red Mullet
2005	Gurnard - Red	2020	Smooth-hound
2005	Megrim	2020	Mullet - Golden Grey
2005	Ray - Blonde	2021	Corkwing Wrasse
2009	Flounder	2022	Lesser Spotted Dogfish
DAVID FLYNN, DUBLIN			
1994	European Seabass	2018	Tench
2014	Carp	2018	Gilthead Bream
2014	Roach x Rudd Hybrid	2018	Ray - Homelyn
2016	Bream	2018	Pike (River)
2016	Roach x Bream Hybrid	2019	Skate - Common
2016	Twaite Shad	2021	Rudd
2016	Mullet - Thick-Lipped	2022	Mullet - Golden Grey
2016	Smooth-hound	2022	Shore Rockling
2016	Tope	2022	Ray - Sting
2018	Spurdog	2022	Brown Trout (Lake)

## 20 SPECIES AWARD

## AMY O'BRIEN, CORK

2015	Carp	2019	Skate - Common
2015	Mullet - Thick-Lipped	2020	Ballan Wrasse
2017	Roach x Bream Hybrid	2021	Tench
2017	Bream	2021	Bluemouth
2017	Mullet - Golden Grey	2021	Spurdog
2017	Ray - Painted	2021	Tope
2018	Ray - Undulate	2022	Brown Trout (Lake)
2018	Twaite Shad	2022	Corkwing Wrasse
2018	Smooth-hound	2022	Conger Eel
2019	Ray - Sting	2022	Pike (River)

## 10 SPECIES AWARD

## EDDIE BUTLER, KILKENNY

2009	Mullet - Golden Grey	2014	Black Sea Bream
2010	Gurnard - Red	2016	Cuckoo Wrasse
2011	Shad Hybrid	2019	Spurdog
2011	Bluemouth	2020	Tope
2012	Twaite Shad	2022	Rudd x Bream Hybrid

## ANTHONY KELLY, DUBLIN

2015	Carp	2019	Spurdog
2018	Pike (River)	2021	Twaite Shad
2018	Tench	2022	Brown Trout (Lake)
2019	Bream	2022	Gilthead Bream
2019	Roach x Bream Hybrid	2022	Skate - Common

## 10 SPECIES AWARD

## MARTIN KENNEDY, DUBLIN

1983	Three-Bearded Rockling	2021	Shark - Blue
1985	Smooth-hound	2021	Tope
1995	European Seabass	2022	Bluemouth
2020	Black Sea Bream	2022	Ray - Sting
2021	Spurdog	2022	Scad
2021	Twaite Shad		

## 50 SPECIMENS AWARD

## DAVID FLYNN, DUBLIN

1994	European Seabass	1	2018	Pike (River)	1
2014	Roach x Rudd Hybrid	1	2018	Ray - Homelyn	1
2014-2021	Carp	10	2018-2021	Spurdog	3
2016	Mullet - Thick-Lipped	1	2018-2022	Tench	6
2016	Twaite Shad	1	2019	Skate - Common	1
2016-2019	Roach x Bream Hybrid	8	2021	Rudd	3
2016, 2021	Tope	4	2022	Shore Rockling	2
2016, 2022	Smooth-hound	3	2022	Ray - Sting	1
2016-2022	Bream	11	2022	Mullet - Golden Grey	1
2018	Gilthead Bream	1	2022	Brown Trout (Lake)	1

## KENNETH MURPHY, CORK

2004-2007	Ray - Blonde	7	2013-2017	Carp	8
2005	Garfish (B. belone)	2	2013-2022	Twaite Shad	8
2006-2009	Coalfish (Saithe)	6	2016, 2018	Skate - Common	2
2007	Megrim	1	2018	Brown Trout (River)	1
2007-2008	Pollack	2	2019	Conger Eel	1
2009	Cod	3	2020	Ballan Wrasse	1
2009, 2018	Lesser Spotted Dogfish	2	2020	Ling	1
2010	Haddock	1	2020	Shark - Blue	1
2010	Pike (River)	1	2020, 2022	Spurdog	4
2010, 2019	Gurnard - Red	2	2022	Scad	1
2012, 2013	Rudd x Bream Hybrid	4			



## 50 SPECIMENS AWARD

## DERICK O'BRIEN, CORK

2000-2015	Carp	24	2011	Shad Hybrid	2
2001	European Eel	2	2011	Spurdog	3
2007	Cod	1	2012, 2016	Brown Trout (River)	2
2009	Pike (River)	1	2013	Mullet - Golden Grey	1
2009-2012	Rudd x Bream Hybrid	6	2014	Gilthead Bream	1
2010, 2013	Bream	4	2019	Cuckoo Wrasse	3
2010-2011	Rudd	3	2019	Skate - Common	1
2010-2019	Mullet - Thick-Lipped	4	2019	Smooth-hound	1
2010-2021	Twaite Shad	10			

## 10 SPECIMENS AWARD

1980-2022	John Cunningham, Donegal	2014-2022	Robert Vaughan, Cork
1986-2022	Brian O'Neill, Waterford	2018-2022	Joseph Brady, Wexford
2007-2022	David Tully, Dublin		



*Gilthead Bream of 3.742 kg, Clonakilty Bay, 10 July 2022, David Brennan, Kildare  
New Gilthead Bream Record, jointly held with Robert Quinn*

**DR MICHAEL KENNEDY AWARD**  
**MULLET OF THE YEAR**

Dr Michael Kennedy, a pioneering fisheries biologist and one of the founders of the ISFC, had a lifelong research interest in mullet species. The Kennedy Award is for the best specimen (highest percentage of the record) and/or a new record of any of the three mullet species for that year.

**Ian Mulligan**, Dublin

1.25 kg **Golden Grey Mullet** at Rosscarbery, Co. Cork, 25 Sept. 2022

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**DR AEJ WENT AWARD**  
**YOUNG SPECIMEN ANGLER OF THE YEAR**

Dr Arthur Went, a noted fisheries biologist and one of the two founder members of the ISFC, nominated this award which is for the best specimen of the year (based on the highest percentage of the specimen weight or length) taken by an angler aged 13 years or younger.

**David Tully**, Dublin

4.8 kg **Bream** from Tully Lorcan Lake, Co. Cavan, 22 June 2021

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**BEST LENGTH SPECIMEN AWARD**

Length specimens are commonly recorded by anglers since originally introduced by ISFC in 2011 and this award is for the longest length-based specimen in 2022 (% of the threshold length).

**David Craig**, Ballyclare

235 cm **Common Skate**, Islandmagee, Co. Antrim, 26 March 2022

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**BEST INTERNATIONAL FISH AWARD**

This award is for the best specimen fish, (calculated as the highest percentage of the current record weight), taken by an overseas angler.

**Martyn Rayner**, Scotland

0.798 kg **Three Bearded Rockling**, Kilmore Quay, Co. Wexford, 14 September 2022

## SPECIMEN FISH CLAIMS RATIFIED BY THE COMMITTEE IN 2022

### FRESHWATER FISH 2022

## Coarse Fish & Pike 2022

### BREAM

**Record 6.07 kg; Specimen Weight, 3.402 kg (7.5 lbs)**

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	FL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
5.22	11.50	58.5	R Erne, Belturbet	S	30-Apr	David Flynn	Corn
4.99	11.00	58.5	R Erne, Belturbet	S	29-Apr	David Flynn	Corn
4.80	10.58	59	Tully Lorcán Lake	S	22-Jun-21	David Tully (J)	Maggots
4.76	10.50	58.5	R Erne, Belturbet	S	29-Apr	David Flynn	Corn
4.25	9.37	59.5	R Erne, Belturbet	S	24-Apr	Anthony Kelly	Corn
3.86	8.50	57	R Erne, Belturbet	S	24-Apr	Anthony Kelly	Corn
3.57	7.87	54	R Erne, Belturbet	S	24-Apr	Anthony Kelly	Corn
3.49	7.70	56	R Erne, Belturbet	S	19-Apr	Francis McNeilly	Maggots/Corn



***Heaviest Bream of 2022 was taken by  
David Flynn***



***3.57 kg Bream for Anthony Kelly***

**Year of capture** is 2022 unless otherwise stated. **Length** (L) is forklength (FL) (cm) for freshwater species, blue and porbeagle shark. Total Length (TL) for all other marine species. **S** = Shore & **B** = Boat. **Country of residence** of international angler denoted by relevant letter after surname. **(J)** after surname denotes juvenile angler.

CARP							
Record 14.24 kg; Specimen Weight 5.9 kg (13 lbs)							
WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	FL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
7.14	15.75	72	Inniscarra Reservoir	S	28-Mar	Sidney Kennedy	Boilie
6.35	14.00	—	Inniscarra Reservoir	S	08-Jul	Noel Kenna	Boilie
6.27	13.81	69	Inniscarra Reservoir	S	28-Mar	Sidney Kennedy	Boilie



Noel Kenna's  
Inniscarra Carp

GUDGEON							
New Record 51.02 g; Specimen Weight 35 g (1.23 ozs) Length specimen (L-S) ≥ 14 cm FL							
WT (G)	WT (LBS)	FL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
51.02	0.112	15	Portna Canal	S	26-Feb	Terry Jackson	Pinkies
48.20	0.106	14	Portna Canal	S	26-Feb	Terry Jackson	Pinkies
45.35	0.1	14.5	Portna Canal	S	26-Feb	Terry Jackson	Pinkies
L-S	—	14.5	Lower R. Bann, Movanager	S	28-Oct	Francis McNeilly	Pinkies
L-S	—	14	Lower R. Bann, Movanager	S	28-Oct	Francis McNeilly	Pinkies
L-S	—	14	Portna Canal	S	26-Oct	David Craig	Maggot

## PERCH

**Record 5 lbs 8 ozs; Specimen Weight 1.2 kg (2.646 lbs)**  
**Length specimen (L-S) ≥ 40 cm FL**

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	L (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
1.47	3.25		R Barrow, Carlow	S	06-Dec-21	Alan Walsh	Lure
L-S	–	41	R Barrow, Athy	S	13-Apr	Craig Murphy	Zman Minnowz
L-S	–	40.5	R Barrow, Athy	S	04-Mar	Craig Murphy	Minnows



*Craig Murphy's 40.5 cm Barrow Perch*



*Heaviest Perch for Alan Walsh*

## PIKE (RIVER)

**Record 42 lbs (19.051 kg); Specimen Weight 9.072 kg (20 lbs)**  
**Length specimen (L-S) ≥ 100 cm FL**

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	L (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
11.79	26.00	106	R Barrow, Graiguenamanagh	S	31-Jan	Dan Smith	Herring
10.74	23.69	106	R Barrow, Goresbridge	S	28-Feb	Ken Garry	Smelt
10.26	22.62	111	R Shannon, Jamestown	S	02-Jan	Derek Greene	Sardine
9.61	21.19	–	R Shannon, Rooskey	S	19-Jan	John Millerick	Mackerel
9.16	20.19	103	R Shannon, Jamestown	S	25-Jan	Derek Greene	Sardine

PIKE (RIVER) CONTINUED...

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	L (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
L-S	—	103.5	R Inny, Shrubbywood	S	05-Dec-21	Carl Owens	Mackerel
L-S	—	103	R Shannon, Rooskey	B	13-Jan	Amy O’Brien (J)	Roach
L-S	—	102	R Shannon, Rooskey	S	30-Dec-21	John Millerick	Mackerel
L-S	—	101	R Shannon, Athlone	S	12-Feb	Thomas Lynch	Herring
L-S	—	100	R Blackwater, NI	S	26-Sep	Duncan Cole	Mackerel



January Pike for John Millerick





*Inny Pike for  
Carl Owens*



*11.79 kg Barrow Pike for Dan Smith*



*10.26 kg Shannon Pike for Derek Greene*



103 cm Pike from the River Shannon at Rooskey for Amy O'Brien in January

ROACH/BREAM HYBRID							
Record 3.376 kg; Specimen Weight 1.6 kg (3.528 lbs)							
WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	FL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
2.04	4.50	43.5	R Erne, Belturbet	S	17-Apr	Anthony Kelly	Corn
1.72	3.80	41.5	R Barrow, Athy	S	29-Apr	Des Chew	Sweetcorn/Maggot
1.68	3.70	42.5	R Barrow, Athy	S	01-May	Des Chew	Sweetcorn/Maggot
1.68	3.70	43	R Barrow, Athy	S	21-Apr	Brian Cooke	Sweetcorn
1.63	3.60	42.5	R Barrow, Athy	S	29-Apr	Des Chew	Sweetcorn/Maggot

ROACH/RUDD HYBRID							
Record 2.1 kg; Specimen Weight 0.9 kg (1.98 lbs)							
WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	FL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
0.96	2.12	36.5	L. Kinale	B	05-Aug-21	David Tully (J)	Maggots
0.9	1.99	35	L. Kinale	B	05-Aug-21	Liam Tully	Maggots



## RUDD

**Record 4 lbs 8 ozs; Specimen Weight 0.8 kg (1.76 lbs)**

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	FL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
1.70	3.75	33.5	Coney Lake	B	20-Nov-21	Micheal Hennessy	Sweetcorn
1.64	3.62	32	Coney Lake	B	20-Nov-21	Micheal Hennessy	Sweetcorn

## RUDD/BREAM HYBRID

**Record 7 lbs 10 ozs; Specimen Weight 1.2 kg (2.64 lbs)**

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	FL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
2.72	6.00	49.5	Belle Lake	S	13-Apr	Barry Murphy	Maggots
2.15	4.75	45	Belle Lake	S	13-Apr	Eddie Butler	Maggots/Corn



*Coney Lake Rudd by Micheal Hennessy*

## TENCH

**Record 8.15 lbs (3.697 kg); Specimen Weight 2.722 kg (6 lbs)**  
**Length specimen (L-S) ≥ 52 cm FL**

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	FL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
2.80	6.17	52	Tully Lorcán Lake	B	22-Jun-21	David Tully (J)	Maggots
2.80	6.17	52	Tully Lorcán Lake	B	21-Jun-21	Clare Maurer	Maggots
2.75	6.06	50	Tully Lough	S	10-Jun	Michael O'Doherty	Boilie
L-S	—	55	Glastry	S	31-May	Terry Jackson	Sweetcorn
L-S	—	54	R Erne, Belturbet	S	24-Apr	Anthony Kelly	Corn
L-S	—	53.5	Greenagh Lake	S	10-Jun	Clyde McElwaine	Maggots
L-S	—	53	R Erne, Belturbet	S	17-Apr	Anthony Kelly	Corn
L-S	—	52.5	Drumlonan Lake	S	21-Jun	Craig Murphy	Maggots
L-S	—	52.5	Drumlonan Lake	S	21-Jun	Craig Murphy	Maggots
L-S	—	52.5	R Erne, Belturbet	S	18-Apr	David Flynn	Corn
L-S	—	52	Broadwater	S	16-Jun	Terry Jackson	Sweetcorn
L-S	—	52	Glastry	S	16-May	Terry Jackson	Sweetcorn



*55 cm Tench from Glastry for Terry Jackson*



*Tench for David Flynn from Belturbet on the River Erne*

## Game Fish 2022

### BROWN TROUT (LAKE)

Record 26 lbs 2 ozs; Specimen Weight 4.536 kg (10 lbs)  
Length – specimen (L-S) threshold  $\geq 75$  cm FL

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	L (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
5.13	11.30	76	L. Corrib	B	01-May	Francis McNeilly	Roach
5.10	11.25	74	L Derg	B	17-Mar	Amy O'Brien (J)	Roach
4.82	10.62	71.5	L Derg	B	02-Apr	Cian McCormack (J)	Roach
4.54	10.00	71	L Ree	B	20-Mar	Anthony Kelly	Herring
L-S	–	78	L Corrib	B	01-Mar	David Flynn	Roach
L-S	–	76	L Derg	B	17-Mar	Kristofor Im	Roach



*A St. Patrick's Day Brown Trout from Lough Derg for Kristofor Im*



71 cm Brown Trout from Lough Corrib for Anthony Kelly

BROWN TROUT (RIVER)							
Record 20 lbs (9.071 kg); Specimen Weight 2.268 kg (5 lbs) Length – specimen (L-S) threshold ≥57 cm FL							
WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	L (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
7.74	17.06	80	Six Mile Water	S	20-Aug	Sean Smith	Fly
5.48	12.08	70	Six Mile Water	S	17-Sep	Jim Gregg	Fly
4.58	10.10	68	Six Mile Water	S	04-Aug	Sean Smith	Fly
4.08	9.00	69	R Shannon, Lanesboro	B	25-Sep	Sidney Kennedy	Roach
3.34	7.36	64	Six Mile Water	S	10-Aug	Jim Gregg	Nymph fly
3.20	7.05	63	Six Mile Water	S	30-Jul	Ben Martin	Fly
2.94	6.48	59	Six Mile Water	S	31-Jul	Sean Smith	Fly
2.72	6.00	60	Six Mile Water	S	04-Aug	Stephen Coulter	Fly
2.64	5.82	58	Six Mile Water	S	11-Sep	Jim Gregg	Fly
2.28	5.03	55	Six Mile Water	S	04-Aug	Stephen Coulter	Fly
L-S	-	68	R Suir, Clonmel	S	20-Mar	Lukasz Ryz	Spinner



4.82 kg Lough Derg Brown Trout for Cian McCormack in early April

SEA TROUT

Record 16 lbs 6 ozs; Specimen Weight 2.722 kg (6 lbs)  
Length – specimen (L-S) threshold ≥ 64 cm FL

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	FL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
L-S	–	65.5	River Bandon	S	01-Aug	Nicholas Tattersall	Fly



Nicholas Tattersall's Bandon Sea Trout

Brown Trout from the River Suir  
for Lukasz Ryz taken in March



Marine Fish 2022

BASS							
Record 17 lbs 13 ozs (8.08 kg); Specimen Weight 4.536 kg (10 lbs) Length – specimen (L-S) ≥75 cm TL							
WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
L-S	–	81	Cork Harbour	B	18-Sep	Brian Devlin	Lure
L-S	–	78	Cork Harbour	B	21-Aug	Warren Devlin	Lure
L-S	–	76	Cork Harbour	B	21-Aug	Declan Collins	Lure
L-S	–	75.5	Youghal	B	25-Sep-21	Declan Collins	Lure



Warren Devlin's  
78 cm Bass from  
Cork Harbour

BLUEMOUTH							
Record 1.32 kg (2.91 lbs); Specimen Weight 0.9 kg (1.98 lbs) Length – specimen (L-S) ≥38 cm TL							
WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
1.02	2.25	39.5	Caherciveen	B	09-Aug	Martin Kennedy	Kilmore Killers/Mackerel
1.02	2.25	38	Caherciveen	B	13-Aug	Sean Ward (J)	Mackerel
0.91	2	37.5	Caherciveen	B	09-Aug	Amy O'Brien (J)	Kilmore Killers
L-S	–	38	Caherciveen	B	13-Aug	Nicholas Ward	Mackerel



*Bluemouth for Amy O'Brien*



*Sean Ward with a Bluemouth fishing out of Caherciveen*

COD							
Record 42 lbs; Specimen Weight 7 kg (15.43 lbs) Length – specimen (L-S) ≥ 88 cm TL							
WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
L-S	–	89	Outer Cork Harbour	B	05-Nov-21	Robert Vaughan	Herring



*Robert Vaughan's Cod*

## CONGER EEL

**Record 72 lbs (32.658 kg); Specimen Weight 18.144 kg (40 lbs)**  
**Length – specimen (L-S) ≥165 cm TL**

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
L-S	–	176.5	Outer Cork Harbour	B	06-Aug	Tony O'Brien	Mackerel baited Pirk
L-S	–	169	Dingle Harbour	S	18-Sep-21	Neil Tyrrell	Mackerel
L-S	–	167	Cork Harbour	B	14-Aug	Amy O'Brien (J)	Mackerel

## LESSER SPOTTED DOGFISH

**Record 4 lbs 4 ozs; Specimen Weight 1.474 kg (3.25 lbs)**

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
1.63	3.6	76.5	Cork Harbour	B	25-Mar	Paul Twomey	Mackerel
1.59	3.50	73.5	Cork Harbour	S	01-Jul	Donal Domeney	Mackerel
1.50	3.30	74	Cork Harbour	S	16-Jun	Donal Domeney	Ragworm
1.47	3.25	76	Cork Harbour	B	13-Oct	Sidney Kennedy	Mackerel



*1.47 Kg Dogfish for Sidney Kennedy*



*Paul Twomey's Dogfish*





*Bullhuss of 116 cm for Robert Vaughan*

## GREATER SPOTTED DOGFISH

**Record 23.813 lbs (10.8 kg); Specimen Weight 7.257 kg (16 lbs)**  
**Length – specimen (L-S)  $\geq$ 115 cm TL**

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
7.42	16.35	–	Brownstown Head	B	17-Aug	Brian O'Neill	Mackerel Fillet
L-S	–	116	Outer Cork Harbour	B	28-Nov-21	Robert Vaughan	Herring

## SPUR DOGFISH

**Record 11.06 kg; Specimen Weight 5.443 kg (12 lbs)**  
**Length – specimen (L-S)  $\geq$ 105 cm TL**

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
7.82	17.24	116	Tralee Bay	B	21-Jul	Philip Barry	Scad Fillet
7.26	16.01	116	Tralee Bay	B	18-Jul	Joseph Donnelly	Mackerel Fillet
5.53	12.19	101	Wicklow	B	10-Nov-21	David Flynn	Mackerel
L-S	–	116.5	Tramore Pier	B	15-Jul	Alex Stubbs	Mackerel
L-S	–	116	Shannon Estuary	B	22-Jul	Philip Barry	Mackerel Fillet

**SPUR DOGFISH CONTINUED...**

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
L-S	—	115	Wicklow	B	25-Mar	Jeff Nolan	Mackerel
L-S	—	114	Wicklow	B	25-Mar	Conor Maguire	Mackerel
L-S	—	114	Dunmore East	B	13-Jul	Liam Tully	Mackerel
L-S	—	113	Downings	B	15-Jun	Menno Dubbeld (NL)	Mackerel Flapper
L-S	—	113	North Channel, Donaghadee	B	28-Aug	Michael Dodds	Mackerel
L-S	—	113	Ballywalter	B	29-Aug	Stephen Kingsman	Mackerel
L-S	—	113	Ballywalter	B	02-Sep	Stephen Kingsman	Mackerel
L-S	—	113	Cork Harbour	B	21-Jul	Paul Ross	Mackerel
L-S	—	113	Islandmagee	B	22-Jul	David Craig	Mackerel
L-S	—	113	Tralee Bay	B	21-Jul	Philip Barry	Scad Fillet
L-S	—	113	Islandmagee	B	22-Jul	Peter Ross	Coalfish
L-S	—	112.5	Downings	B	22-Jun	Rinus Hage (NL)	Mackerel Strip
L-S	—	112	North Channel, Donaghadee	B	02-Sep	Michael Dodds	Mackerel
L-S	—	112	Islandmagee	B	28-Aug	David Craig	Cuckoo Wrasse
L-S	—	112	Wicklow	B	12-Jan	Thomas Lynch	Herring



**November Spurdog for  
Robert Power out of Wicklow**



**Spurdog of 111.5 cm for Eddie Butler  
fishing out of Dunmore East**



*Jeff Nolan with his 111 cm Spurdog*



*A 110 cm Spurdog for Niall Burke in March*

### **SPUR DOGFISH CONTINUED...**

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
L-S	—	112	Wicklow	B	12-Jan	Thomas Lynch	Mackerel
L-S	—	112	Downings	B	22-Jun	Rinus Hage (NL)	Mackerel Strip
L-S	—	111.5	Waterford	B	10-Jul	Eddie Butler	Mackerel Strip
L-S	—	111	Downings	B	25-Jun	Johannes Dijke (NL)	Mackerel Strip
L-S	—	111	Fenit	B	13-Jun	Sidney Kennedy	Mackerel
L-S	—	111	Wicklow	B	25-Mar	Jeff Nolan	Mackerel
L-S	—	111	Wicklow	B	25-Mar	Peter Walker	Mackerel/Herring
L-S	—	111	Wicklow	B	25-Mar	Niall Burke	Squid
L-S	—	111	Wicklow	B	12-Jan	Bert McGregor	Herring
L-S	—	111	Wicklow	B	10-Jan	John Millerick	Mackerel
L-S	—	111	Dunmore East	B	17-Jul	David Tully (J)	Mackerel
L-S	—	111	Dunmore East	B	17-Jul	Clare Maurer	Mackerel
L-S	—	111	Islandmagee	B	22-Jul	Peter Ross	Coalfish
L-S	—	110.5	Waterford	B	10-Jul	Eddie Butler	Mackerel Strip
L-S	—	110.5	Dunmore East	B	10-Jul	Paul Twomey	Mackerel
L-S	—	110	Wicklow	B	25-Mar	Niall Burke	Mackerel

**SPUR DOGFISH CONTINUED...**

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
L-S	—	110	North Channel, Donaghadee	B	02-Sep	Michael Dodds	Mackerel
L-S	—	110	Cork Harbour	B	27-May	Kenneth Murphy	Mackerel
L-S	—	110	Wicklow	B	12-Jan	Dan Smith	Herring/Squid
L-S	—	110	Wicklow	B	12-Jan	Dan Smith	Herring/Squid
L-S	—	110	Islandmagee	B	28-Aug	David Bird	Mackerel
L-S	—	110	Islandmagee	B	10-Jul	David Craig	Mackerel
L-S	—	109.5	Dunmore East	B	17-Jul	Clare Maurer	Mackerel
L-S	—	109	Wicklow	B	10-Nov-21	Robert Power	Mackerel
L-S	—	109	Fenit	B	10-Aug	John Cunningham	Mackerel
L-S	—	109	Wicklow	B	25-Mar	Niall Burke	Mackerel
L-S	—	109	Wicklow	B	10-Jan	John Millerick	Mackerel
L-S	—	109	Galway Bay	B	16-Jun	Johannes Dijke (NL)	Mackerel
L-S	—	109	Wicklow	B	22-Jan	Rob McClean	Mackerel
L-S	—	109	Dunmore East	B	10-Jul	Paul Twomey	Mackerel
L-S	—	109	Wicklow	B	12-Jan	Dan Smith	Herring/Squid
L-S	—	109	Islandmagee	B	22-Jul	Mark Todd	Mackerel



**David Tully with his 111 cm Spurdog  
out of Dunmore East**



**112 cm Spurdog for Tom Lynch**



*Outer Cork Harbour Spurdog for  
Ailbhe O'Sullivan in May*



*Gavin Moran with his Greystones Spurdog*

### SPUR DOGFISH CONTINUED...

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
L-S	—	108.5	Islandmagee	B	28-Aug	David Bird	Mackerel
L-S	—	108.5	Downings	B	22-Jun	Johannes Dijke (NL)	Mackerel Strip
L-S	—	108	Wicklow	B	10-Jan	Derek Greene	Mackerel
L-S	—	108	Downings	B	15-Jun	Bert Uithol (NL)	Mackerel Flapper
L-S	—	108	Downings	B	15-Jun	Gijs Knevel (NL)	Mackerel Flapper
L-S	—	108	Wicklow	B	24-Jan	Ian O'Connor	Herring
L-S	—	108	Dunmore East	B	05-Jul	Brian O'Neill	Baited Muppet
L-S	—	108	Wicklow	B	10-Jan	Pamela Byrne	Mackerel
L-S	—	108	Dunmore East	B	10-Jul	Barry Murphy	Mackerel
L-S	—	107.5	Dunmore East	B	17-Jul	David Tully (J)	Mackerel
L-S	—	107.5	Islandmagee	B	22-Jul	Mark Todd	Mackerel
L-S	—	107	Tramore Pier	B	15-Jul	Ian Stubbs	Mackerel
L-S	—	107	Dunmore East	B	10-Jul	Paul Twomey	Mackerel
L-S	—	107	Waterford	B	10-Jul	Eddie Butler	Mackerel Strip
L-S	—	107	Ballywalter	B	02-Sep	Stephen Kingsman	Mackerel
L-S	—	107	Galway Bay	B	16-Jun	Rinus Hage (NL)	Mackerel Flapper
L-S	—	107	Dunmore East	B	13-Jul	Liam Tully	Mackerel

**SPUR DOGFISH CONTINUED...**

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
L-S	—	107	Belfast Lough	B	10-Jul	Terry Jackson	Mackerel
L-S	—	107	Belfast Lough	B	11-Jul	Terry Jackson	Mackerel
L-S	—	107	Belfast Lough	B	11-Jul	Terry Jackson	Mackerel
L-S	—	107	Downings	B	24-Jun	Trevor Ryder	Mackerel Strip
L-S	—	107	Cork Harbour	B	28-Aug	Paul Briggs	Baited feathers
L-S	—	106.5	Dunmore East	B	14-Jul	Philip Connolly	Mackerel
L-S	—	106.5	Dunmore East	B	13-Jul	Liam Tully	Mackerel
L-S	—	106.5	Islandmagee	B	10-Jul	David Bird	Mackerel
L-S	—	106.5	Islandmagee	B	22-Jul	Mark Todd	Mackerel
L-S	—	106	Fenit	B	13-Jun	Sidney Kennedy	Mackerel
L-S	—	106	Wicklow	B	24-Jan	Kit Dunne	Herring
L-S	—	106	Wicklow	B	10-Jan	John Millerick	Mackerel
L-S	—	106	Islandmagee	B	22-Jul	Peter Ross	Coalfish
L-S	—	106	Cork Harbour	B	03-Apr	Robert Vaughan	Herring
L-S	—	106	Greystones	B	22-Jan	Gavin Moran	Mackerel Strip
L-S	—	106	Cork Harbour	B	28-Aug	Ruairi Guest	Baited feathers
L-S	—	106	Cork Harbour	B	28-Aug	Pat Condon	Baited feathers
L-S	—	105.5	Dunmore East	B	10-Jul	Paul Roberts	Mackerel
L-S	—	105.5	Dunmore East	B	17-Jul	David Tully (J)	Mackerel
L-S	—	105.5	Cork Harbour	B	28-May	Ailbhe O'Sullivan	Mackerel
L-S	—	105	Downings	B	15-Jun	Gijs Knevel (NL)	Mackerel
L-S	—	105	Downings	B	22-Jun	Rinus Hage (NL)	Mackerel Strip
L-S	—	105	Wicklow	B	22-Jan	Rob McClean	Mackerel

## FLOUNDER

**Record 4.91 lbs (2.227 kg); Specimen Weight 1.1 kg (2.426 lbs)**  
**Length – specimen (L-S) ≥45 cm TL**

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
1.28	2.81	45	Youghal	S	17-Oct	Pat O'Shea	Peeler Crab
1.18	2.59	44	Cashen River Estuary	S	23-Sep	Peter Bolger	Crab
1.16	2.56	43	Youghal	S	18-Nov-21	Barry Healy	Peeler Crab
1.16	2.56	46	Kinnagoe Bay	S	02-Jan	Jim Gregg	Ragworm/Mackerel
1.16	2.56	43.5	Bannow Bay	S	13-Nov-21	Thomas Lynch	Crab
1.13	2.50	47.5	Youghal	S	28-Nov-21	Barry Healy	Peeler Crab
1.12	2.46	44.5	Youghal	S	20-Oct	Barry Healy	Peeler Crab
1.11	2.44	46.5	Youghal	S	26-Mar	Christy Lane	Crab



*Gilthead Bream in June by Patrick Lombard*

*Youghal Flounder for Christy Lane*



GILTHEAD BREAM							
New Record 3.742 kg; Specimen Weight 1.4 kg (3.08 lbs) Length – specimen (L-S) ≥42 cm TL							
WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
3.742	8.25	60	Rosscarbery	S	22-Aug	Robert Quin	Lugworm
3.742	8.25	58.5	Clonakilty Bay	S	10-Jul	David Brennan	Lugworm
3.12	6.87	62	Clonakilty Bay	S	27-Mar	Jason Convery	Lugworm
3.03	6.69	56	Clonakilty Bay	S	27-Mar	Jason Convery	Lugworm
2.81	6.19	56	Clonakilty Bay	S	16-Apr	Jason Convery	Lugworm
2.76	6.09	58.5	Clonakilty Bay	S	07-Apr	Patrick Lombard	Ragworm
1.93	4.25	49	Clonakilty Bay	S	09-Jul	Anthony Kelly	Lugworm
L-S	–	46	Cork Harbour	S	10-Jul	Martin Perryman	Ragworm
L-S	–	44	Cork Harbour	B	06-Jun	Sam Collins	Ragworm
L-S	–	44	Clonakilty Bay	S	01-Apr	Patrick Lombard	Ragworm
L-S	–	43.5	Cork Harbour	S	28-Jul	Martin Perryman	Ragworm
L-S	–	43.5	Clonakilty Bay	S	14-Sep	Andrew Wolsey	Lugworm
L-S	–	43.5	Clonakilty Bay	S	20-Jun	Patrick Lombard	Ragworm
L-S	–	42	Cork Harbour	S	13-Jun	Martin Perryman	Ragworm



Sam Collins with his 44 cm Cork Harbour Gilthead



## GREY GURNARD

**Record 3 lbs 1 oz; Specimen Weight 0.6 kg (1.32 lbs)**  
**Length – specimen (L-S)  $\geq$  40 cm TL**

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
L-S	–	40	Cork Harbour	B	23-Sep	Micheal Hennessy	Mackerel Strip



*Cornelis Joos Marteijn with the only specimen Ling of 2022*



*Micheal Hennessy with the only specimen Grey Gurnard of 2022*

## LING

**Record 55 lbs (24.95 kg); Specimen Weight 11.34 kg (25 lbs)**  
**Length – specimen (L-S)  $\geq$  125 cm TL**

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
L-S	–	145	Courtmacsherry	B	09-Jul	Cornelis Joos Marteijn (NL)	Mackerel

MEGRIM							
Record 1.85 kg; Specimen Weight 794 g (1.75 lbs) Length – specimen (L-S) ≥ 49 cm TL							
WT (G)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
861.83	1.90	47.5	Cork Harbour	B	02-May	Ailbhe O’Sullivan	Mackerel
L-S	—	49.5	Crosshaven	B	02-Oct	Robert Vaughan	Sidewinder lure



*Specimen Megrim for  
Ailbhe O’Sullivan (above)  
and Robert Vaughan*



THICK LIPPED MULLET							
Record 9.1 lbs (4.128 kg); Specimen Weight 2.268 kg (5 lbs)							
WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
3.26	7.19	63	Rosscarbery	S	03-Aug	Ian Mulligan	Bread Flake
3.12	6.87	61	Rosscarbery	S	14-Aug	Jason Convery	Bread
2.98	6.56	60	Rosscarbery	S	10-Aug	Ian Mulligan	Bread Flake

**THICK LIPPED MULLET CONTINUED...**

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
2.81	6.19	58.5	Rosscarbery	S	24-Jul	Ian Mulligan	Bread Flake
2.75	6.06	62	Rosscarbery	S	03-Aug	Jason Convery	Bread
2.65	5.85	62	Cork Harbour	S	05-May	Joseph Marsella	Bread Flake
2.61	5.75	58.5	Rosscarbery	S	27-Aug	John Millerick	Bread
2.60	5.73	59	Rosscarbery	S	05-Sep	Philip Connolly	Bread
2.55	5.62	55	Strangford Lough	S	22-Aug	Terry Jackson	Bread Flake
2.52	5.56	57.5	Rosscarbery	S	29-Jul	Noel Darcy	Maddies
2.52	5.56	58	Rosscarbery	S	12-Jul	John Millerick	Bread
2.49	5.50	57	Rosscarbery	S	04-Jun	John Millerick	Bread
2.42	5.34	59	Rosscarbery	S	12-Aug	Patrick Lombard	Maddies
2.41	5.31	58	Rosscarbery	S	17-Mar	Jason Convery	Bread
2.38	5.25	51	Strangford Lough	S	05-Sep	Terry Jackson	Bread Flake
2.34	5.16	58	Rosscarbery	S	12-Oct	Patrick Lombard	Ragworm
2.27	5.00	55.5	Rosscarbery	S	03-Aug	Sidney Kennedy	Bread



**Noel Darcy with his Rosscarbery  
Grey Mullet in July**



**September Grey Mullet for  
Philip Connolly in Rosscarbery**



2.81 kg Grey Mullet for Ian Mulligan



John Millerick's 2.61 kg Grey Mullet

GOLDEN GREY MULLET							
Record 1.52 kg (3.351 lbs); Specimen Weight 0.68 kg (1.5 lbs)							
WT (G)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
1247.40	2.75	47	Rosscarbery	S	25-Sep	Ian Mulligan	Maddies
1190.68	2.62	46	Rosscarbery	S	25-Sep	Ian Mulligan	Maddies
950	2.1	43	Red Strand, Cork	S	18-Jul	Terry O'Donovan	Maddies
907.18	2.00	41.5	Rosscarbery	S	26-Sep	Ian Mulligan	Maddies
878.84	1.94	44	Rosscarbery	S	20-Jul	Jason Convery	Maddies
850.49	1.87	42	Clonakilty Bay	S	21-Jul	Sean Ward (J)	Maddies
843	1.84	44	Rosscarbery	S	12-Oct	Patrick Lombard	Ragworm
793.79	1.75	41	Rosscarbery	S	07-Aug	Jason Convery	Maddies
765.44	1.69	42.5	Rosscarbery	S	08-Aug	Sidney Kennedy	Ragworm
708.74	1.56	41	Rosscarbery	S	08-Aug	Sidney Kennedy	Ragworm
708.74	1.56	40	Clonakilty Bay	S	10-Jul	David Flynn	Maddies
703.07	1.55	43	East Cork	S	25-Nov-21	Donal Domeney	Maddies
680.39	1.50	41	Rosscarbery	S	13-Aug	Amy O'Brien (J)	Ragworm
680.39	1.50	41	Rosscarbery	S	07-Aug	Sidney Kennedy	Ragworm



*Golden Grey Mullet for Terry O'Donovan (L), Sean Ward and David Flynn (R)*

## POLLACK

**Record 19.186 lbs (8.7 kg); Specimen Weight 5 kg (11.02 lbs)**

**Length – specimen (L-S)  $\geq$ 80 cm TL**

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
L-S	–	80	Wicklow Bay	B	22-Jul	Matt Somers	Shad

## PAINTED RAY

**Record 17.21 lbs (7.806 kg); Specimen Weight 4.536 kg (10 lbs)**

**Length – specimen (L-BS)  $\geq$ 80 cm TL**

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
L-S	–	85	Garryvoe	S	12-Oct	Martin Kennedy	Crab
L-S	–	83.5	Ballycotton Bay	S	12-Oct	Pat O'Shea	Mackerel
L-S	–	82.75	Garryvoe	S	23-Nov-21	Donal Domeney	Crab
L-S	–	80	Tramore Bay	B	11-Aug	Charlie Murphy (J)	Mackerel



*Undulate Ray for Joseph Brady*

*Tralee Bay Sting Ray for David Flynn*

STING RAY							
Record 33.2 kg (73.19 lbs); Specimen Weight 13 kg (28.66 lbs) Length – specimen (L-S) ≥90 cm TL							
WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
19.96	44.00	114	Fenit	B	13-May	Sidney Kennedy	Crab
14.51	32.00	103	Fenit	B	13-May	Sidney Kennedy	Crab
L-S	–	96.5	Fenit	B	13-Jun	Martin Kennedy	Crab
L-S	–	95.5	Ballycotton Bay	S	10-Sep	Pat O'Shea	Ragworm
L-S	–	92	Tralee Bay	S	13-Aug	Darren Ryan	Mackerel
L-S	–	91	Tralee Bay	B	28-May	David Flynn	Crab
L-S	–	>90	Tralee Bay	S	16-Jul	Joe Chambers	Sandeel



## UNDULATE RAY

**Record 18 lbs; Specimen Weight N/A**  
**Length – specimen (L-S) ≥85 cm TL**

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
L-S	–	87	Spa, Co. Kerry	S	04-Aug	James Raymond	Sandeel
L-S	–	86	Tralee Bay	B	29-May-21	Joseph Brady	Crab/mackerel
L-S	–	85	Fenit	B	05-Jun	Clare Maurer	Crab

## SHORT-SPINED SEA SCORPION

**Record - ; Specimen Weight -**  
**Length – specimen (L-S) ≥ 25 cm TL**

WT (G)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
L-S	–	25	Donegal Bay	S	18-Jun	John Cunningham	Lugworm

## SHORE ROCKLING

**Record - ; Specimen Weight -**  
**Length – specimen (L-S) ≥30 cm TL**

WT (G)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
L-S	–	34.5	Dunabratton Bay	S	26-Mar	David Flynn	Mackerel
L-S	–	34.4	Cork Harbour	S	04-Jun	Sean Bannon (J)	Crab
L-S	–	33	Dunabratton Head	S	22-Jan	Nicholas Ward	Mackerel
L-S	–	32.4	Cork Harbour	S	26-Apr	Donal Domeney	Crab
L-S	–	32	Dunabratton Head	S	15-Jan	Nicholas Ward	Mackerel
L-S	–	31	Dunabratton Bay	S	26-Mar	David Flynn	Mackerel
L-S	–	31	Cork Harbour	S	04-Jun	Donal Domeney	Crab
L-S	–	30.9	Cork Harbour	S	04-Jun	Donal Domeney	Crab
L-S	–	30	Dunabratton Head	S	22-Jan	Nicholas Ward	Mackerel

THREE BEARDED ROCKLING

Record 3 lbs 1 ozs; Specimen Weight 0.794 kg (1.75 lbs)

WT (G)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
798.30	1.76	–	Kilmore Quay	B	14-Sep	Martyn Rayner (UK)	Ragworm



Largest Shore Rockling of 2022 fell to David Flynn



Baltimore was the venue for Martin Kennedy's Scad in August

SCAD

Record 1.97 lbs; Specimen Weight 0.68 kg (1.5 lbs)  
Length – specimen (L-S) ≥ 44 cm TL

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
L-S	–	45	Cork Harbour	B	06-Aug	Kenneth Murphy	Mackerel baited feathers
L-S	–	44	Baltimore	B	26-Aug	Martin Kennedy	Bullseyes/Mackerel



## TWAITE SHAD

**Record 1.64 kg; Specimen Weight N/A**  
**Length – specimen (L-S) ≥50 cm TL**

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
L-S	–	53.5	R Barrow, St. Mullins	S	16-May-21	Kenneth Murphy	Tasmanian Devil
L-S	–	53	St. Mullins	S	06-May	Peter Bovenizer	Tasmanian Devil
L-S	–	52.5	St. Mullins	S	18-May	Mark Lennon	Tasmanian Devil
L-S	–	52	St. Mullins	S	13-May	Sidney Kennedy	Spinner
L-S	–	52	St. Mullins	S	15-May	Craig Murphy	Tasmanian Devil
L-S	–	52	St. Mullins	S	18-May	Philip Connolly	Tasmanian Devil
L-S	–	52	St. Mullins	S	13-May	Kenneth Murphy	Tasmanian Devil
L-S	–	52	St. Mullins	S	16-May-21	Kenneth Murphy	Tasmanian Devil
L-S	–	51	St. Mullins	S	15-May	Sidney Kennedy	Spinner
L-S	–	51	St. Mullins	S	14-May	Duncan Cole	Lure
L-S	–	50.5	St. Mullins	S	17-May	Eric Gosnell	Tasmanian Devil
L-S	–	50.5	St. Mullins	S	01-May	Noel Darcy	Sprat
L-S	–	50	St. Mullins	S	05-May	Des Chew	Tasmanian Devil
L-S	–	50	St. Mullins	S	16-May	Philip Connolly	Tasmanian Devil



*Peter Bovenizer had the second longest Shad of 2022*



*50.5 cm Shad for Noel Darcy*

BLUE SHARK

Record 206 lbs (93.44 kg); Specimen Weight 45.359 kg (100 lbs)  
Length – based specimen (L-S) ≥185 cm FL

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	FL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
L-S	–	194	Courtmacsherry	B	18-Jul	Conor Ward	Pollack
L-S	–	188	Outer Cork Harbour	B	17-Sep	Kristofor Im	Mackerel
L-S	–	185.5	Courtmacsherry	B	19-Sep	Joseph Brady	Mackerel
L-S	–	185	Outer Cork Harbour	B	17-Sep	Sidney Kennedy	Mackerel
L-S	–	185	25 km SW of Helvick	B	17-Sep	Brian O'Neill	Mackerel



*Largest specimen  
Blue Shark of 2022  
was caught and released  
by Conor Ward*



September Blue Shark for Kristofor Im

PORBEAGLE SHARK

Record 365 lbs; Specimen Weight N/A  
Length – based specimen (L-S) ≥180 cm FL

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	FL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
L-S	–	>180	North Donegal	B	15-Apr	Sidney Kennedy	Coalfish
L-S	–	>180	North Donegal	B	26-Apr	Terry Jackson	Coalfish
L-S	–	>180	North Donegal	B	27-Apr	Terry Jackson	Coalfish
L-S	–	>180	North Donegal	B	26-Apr	Sidney Kennedy	Coalfish
L-S	–	>180	North Donegal	B	27-Apr	Sidney Kennedy	Coalfish

COMMON SKATE							
Record 221 lbs (100.24 kg); Specimen Weight - N/A Length – specimen (L-S) ≥180 cm TL							
WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
L-S	—	235	Islandmagee	B	26-Mar	David Craig	Coalfish
L-S	—	221.5	Malin Head	B	02-Sep	Ton Vercammen (NL)	Mackerel Flapper
L-S	—	212	Malin Head	B	16-Jun	Bert Uithol (NL)	Mackerel Flapper
L-S	—	210	Belfast Lough	B	02-May	Terry Jackson	Mackerel/Coalfish
L-S	—	209	Islandmagee	B	10-Jul	David Bird	Mackerel
L-S	—	209	Islandmagee	B	10-Jul	David Craig	Mackerel
L-S	—	208	Malin Head	B	29-Aug	Joost Spreeuw (NL)	Mackerel Flapper



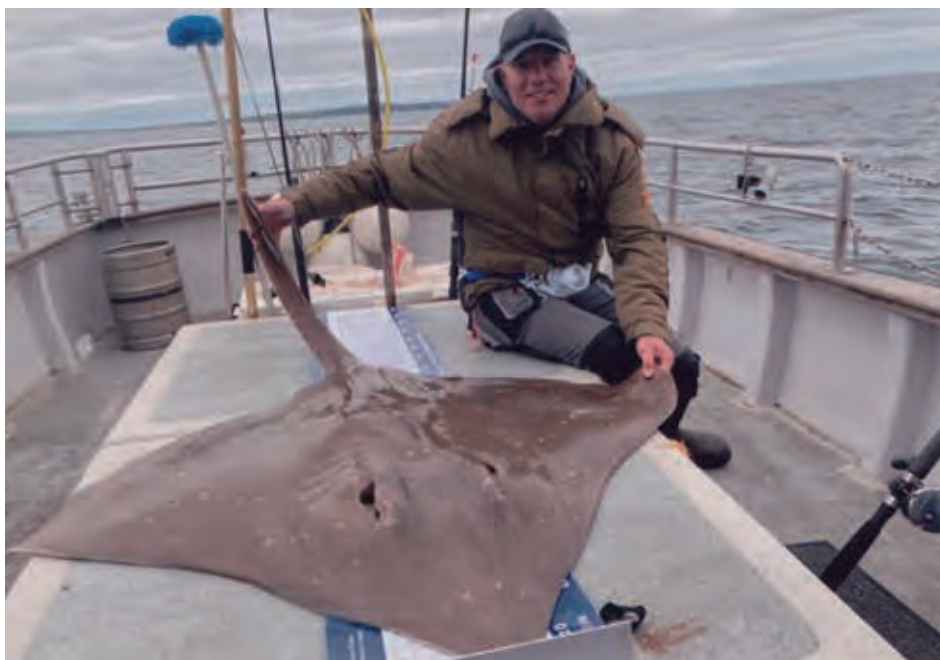
210 cm Skate for Terry Jackson  
out of Belfast Lough



Sean O’Herlihy with his 200 cm  
Skate fishing out of Union Hall

**COMMON SKATE CONTINUED...**

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
L-S	—	208	Islandmagee	B	22-Jul	David Bird	Mackerel
L-S	—	206.5	Clew Bay	B	31-Aug	Joe Cooney	Mackerel
L-S	—	204.5	Belfast Lough	B	10-Jul	Terry Jackson	Mackerel/ Coalfish
L-S	—	201	Belfast Lough	B	02-May	Michael McGimpsey	Coalfish
L-S	—	200	Islandmagee	B	03-Aug-21	David Craig	Mackerel
L-S	—	200	Reen Pier, Union Hall	B	26-Jun	Sean O'Herlihy	Mackerel
L-S	—	199	Union Hall	B	01-Jul	Bart Luken (NL)	Mackerel
L-S	—	198	Union Hall	B	29-Jun	Piet Verkade (NL)	Coalfish



*Courtmacsherry Skate in September for Anthony Kelly*

COMMON SKATE CONTINUED...

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
L-S	—	196	Islandmagee	B	27-Jul	Peter Ross	Mackerel
L-S	—	195	Islandmagee	B	26-Mar	David Craig	Coalfish
L-S	—	194	Islandmagee	B	10-Jul	Mark Todd	Mackerel
L-S	—	190	Islandmagee	B	26-Mar	Mark Todd	Coalfish
L-S	—	188	Cork Harbour	B	22-Jul	Paul Ross	Mackerel/ Herring
L-S	—	187	Outer Cork Harbour	B	20-Nov-21	Robert Vaughan	Herring
L-S	—	187	Islandmagee	B	26-Mar	Peter Ross	Coalfish
L-S	—	186	Islandmagee	B	26-Mar	Peter Ross	Coalfish
L-S	—	184	Clew Bay	B	30-Aug	Alan Drumm	Mackerel
L-S	—	182	Islandmagee	B	26-Mar	Mark Todd	Coalfish
L-S	—	182	Belfast Lough	B	10-Jul	Terry Jackson	Mackerel/ Coalfish
L-S	—	181	Courtmacsherry	B	25-Sep	Anthony Kelly	Mackerel
L-S	—	>180	Clew Bay	B	19-Jul	Joe Cooney	Mackerel
L-S	—	>180	Islandmagee	B	07-Mar-21	Mark Todd	Mackerel
L-S	—	>180	Clew Bay	B	28-Jul	Joe Cooney	Mackerel



## SMOOTH HOUND

**Record 12.02 kg; Specimen Weight 4.5 kg (9.92 lbs)**  
**Length – specimen (L-S)  $\geq 103$  cm TL**

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
L-S	–	127	Wicklow	B	25-Aug-21	Liam Tully	Crab
L-S	–	124	Wicklow	B	10-Jul	Graham Garvey	Crab
L-S	–	114	Wicklow	B	24-Jun	Martin O'Connor	Crab
L-S	–	112	Cobh	S	29-Aug	Martin Perryman	Ragworm
L-S	–	112	Greystones	B	06-Aug	Ronan Doherty	Crab
L-S	–	111	Lambay	B	28-Aug	Laurence Hughes	Peeler Crab
L-S	–	109	Tralee Bay	B	30-Apr	Evan McGovern	Peeler Crab
L-S	–	109	Wicklow	B	22-Aug	Bryan Curtin	Peeler Crab
L-S	–	109	Wicklow	B	05-Jul	Robert Reid	Peeler Crab
L-S	–	106	Wicklow	B	17-Jun	Jason Perry	Crab
L-S	–	105.5	Wicklow	B	23-Jun	Dan Finlay	Crab
L-S	–	105	Wicklow	B	03-Jun	Ronan Gilpin	Crab
L-S	–	105	Dunmore East	B	14-Jul	Philip Connolly	Crab
L-S	–	104	Tralee Bay	B	27-May	David Flynn	Crab
L-S	–	103.5	Tralee Bay	B	26-May	David Flynn	Crab
L-S	–	103	Tralee Bay	B	30-Apr	Evan McGovern	Peeler Crab
L-S	–	103	Wicklow	B	01-Jun	Shane Keegan	Crab



Dan Finlay's Wicklow Smooth hound in June

TOPE							
Record 34.02 kg; Specimen Weight 18.144 kg (40 lbs) Length – specimen (L-S) ≥155 cm TL							
WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
27.22	60.00	176	Kilmore Quay	B	03-Jan	Sidney Kennedy	Mackerel
L-S	–	176	Greystones	B	14-Jul	Stephen Hanway	Mackerel
L-S	–	170	Greystones	B	27-Jul	Sean Byrne	Mackerel
L-S	–	167	Greystones	B	11-Aug	Stephen Hanway	Mackerel
L-S	–	166	Wicklow	B	13-Nov-21	Dave Canny	Mackerel
L-S	–	164.5	Greystones	B	02-Sep	Craig Murphy	Mackerel
L-S	–	163.5	Wicklow	B	28-Aug	Adam Quinn	Mackerel
L-S	–	163	Wicklow	B	25-Sep	Jeby George	Mackerel
L-S	–	163	Wicklow	B	16-Oct	Dara Lynch	Coalfish
L-S	–	161.5	Greystones	B	28-Jul	Stephen Hanway	Mackerel

**TOPE CONTINUED...**

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
L-S	—	161	Wicklow	B	21-Jun	Wim Theulings (NL)	Mackerel
L-S	—	161	Dunmore East	B	10-Aug	Philip Connolly	Mackerel
L-S	—	160.5	Roney Pt, Wexford	S	15-Jun	Joseph Brady	Mackerel
L-S	—	160	Greystones	B	17-Sep	Sean Byrne	Mackerel
L-S	—	160	Wicklow	B	01-Oct	Oliver O'Neill	Mackerel
L-S	—	160	Greystones	B	18-Sep	Clyde McElwaine	Mackerel
L-S	—	160	Greystones	B	11-Oct	Pat Kirwan	Mackerel
L-S	—	159.5	Greystones	B	10-Jul	Clyde McElwaine	Mackerel

***Crab tempted Shane Keegan's  
103 cm Smooth hound  
off Wicklow***



***Ronan Gilpin had this  
smoothie in early June***

TOPE CONTINUED...

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
L-S	—	159	Wicklow	B	21-Jun	Henk Theulings (NL)	Mackerel
L-S	—	159	Dunmore East	B	23-Aug	Philip Connolly	Mackerel
L-S	—	158	Wicklow	B	19-Jul	Craig Murphy	Mackerel
L-S	—	158	Wicklow	B	18-Jun	Martin O’Neill	Mackerel
L-S	—	158	Wicklow	B	05-Jul	Mike Wheeler (D)	Mackerel
L-S	—	158	Greystones	B	18-Sep	Clyde McElwaine	Mackerel
L-S	—	158	Roney Pt, Wexford	S	13-Jul-21	Joseph Brady	Mackerel



*Ronan Cooper with his 157 cm Tope out of Wicklow*



*166 cm November Tope for Dave Canny fishing out of Wicklow*

**TOPE CONTINUED...**

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
L-S	—	157.5	Wicklow	B	06-Oct	Henk Theulings (NL)	Mackerel
L-S	—	157	Wicklow	B	16-Jun	Ronan Cooper	Pollack
L-S	—	157	Wicklow	B	24-Aug	Niall Burke	Mackerel
L-S	—	157	Wicklow	B	14-Oct	Colin Dixon	Mackerel
L-S	—	157	Dublin Bay	B	06-Aug	Ann Thomas	Mackerel
L-S	—	157	Greystones	B	06-Aug	John Geoghegan	Herring
L-S	—	156.5	Wicklow	B	11-Jul	John Cullen	Mackerel
L-S	—	156.5	Kilmore Quay	B	03-Sep	Eddie Butler	Mackerel Strip/ Ragworm
L-S	—	156	Kilmore Quay	B	20-Nov-21	Amy O'Brien (J)	Mackerel
L-S	—	156	Wicklow	B	19-Sep	Denis Power	Mackerel



*Wim Theulings with his 161 cm Tope from June*

TOPE CONTINUED...

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
L-S	—	156	Greystones	B	15-Jul	Pat Kirwan	Mackerel
L-S	—	156	Greystones	B	30-Jul	Dermot Hosey	Herring
L-S	—	156	Kilmore Quay	B	03-Jan	Martin Kennedy	Mackerel
L-S	—	155.5	Greystones	B	11-Aug	Sean Byrne	Mackerel
L-S	—	155.5	Wicklow	B	19-Sep	Alex Pozuvanskis	Mackerel
L-S	—	155	Greystones	B	02-Oct	Shay McDonnell	Coalfish
L-S	—	155	Kilmore Quay	B	03-Jan	Amy O'Brien (J)	Mackerel
L-S	—	155	Kilmore Quay	B	20-Nov-21	Amy O'Brien (J)	Mackerel
L-S	—	155	Greystones	B	09-Aug	Rob McClean	Mackerel



October Tope of 160 cm from Greystones caught, tagged and released by Pat Kirwan





*Terry O'Donovan and August Trigger Fish*

## TRIGGER FISH

Record 2.54 kg; Specimen Weight 1.474 kg (3.25 lbs)

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
2.04	4.50	48.5	Bantry Bay	S	14-Aug	Terry O'Donovan	Peeler Crab

## ALBACORE TUNA

Record 29.96 kg; Specimen Weight 12 kg (26.46 lbs)

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
27.90	61.50	117	Kinsale	B	22-Aug-21	Patrick Mostyn	Lure

## BALLAN WRASSE

**Record 4.3 kg; Specimen Weight 2.154 kg (4.75 lbs)**  
**Length – specimen (L-S) ≥48 cm TL**

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
2.44	5.37	50.5	Slea Head	S	31-Jul	Sidney Kennedy	Crab
2.35	5.19	50	Slea Head	S	06-Jun	Amy O'Brien (J)	Crab
2.15	4.75	47.5	Eyeries	S	31-Aug	Patrick Lombard	Crab
L-S	–	51	Clifden	S	11-Jul	Myles Kirby	Crab
L-S	–	51	Dursey Sound	S	16-Aug	Mark Noble	Crab
L-S	–	49	Castletownbere	S	15-Jul	Tracey Daly	Peeler Crab
L-S	–	49	Inishmaan	S	17-Sep	Richard Clack	Shad
L-S	–	48.5	Castletownbere	S	14-Jul	Tracey Daly	Crab
L-S	–	48	Slea Head	S	19-Sep	Ronan Doherty	Ragworm
L-S	–	48	Donegal Bay	S	04-Oct	John Cunningham	Lugworm
L-S	–	48	Kinsale	S	22-Jun	Evan McGovern	Hardback crab
L-S	–	48	Slea Head	S	06-Jun	Sidney Kennedy	Crab
L-S	–	48	Beara Peninsula	S	31-Aug	Noel Darcy	King Prawn



*Ballan Wrasse for Patrick Lombard (L) and John Cunningham*



*Ballan Wrasse for Evan McGovern (L) and Amy O'Brien*

## CORKWING WRASSE

**Record -; Specimen Weight 200 g**  
**Length – based specimen (L-S) ≥24 cm TL**

WT (G)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
232.00	0.51	24.5	Slea Head	S	17-Jul	Amy O'Brien (J)	Ragworm
203.00	0.45	23	Slea Head	S	17-Jul	Amy O'Brien (J)	Ragworm
L-S	—	25.5	Slea Head	S	17-Sep	Peter Bolger	Worms
L-S	—	25.5	Sligo Bay	S	31-Jul	Ronan Doherty	Ragworm
L-S	—	25	Cork Harbour	B	05-May	Paul Twomey	Ragworm
L-S	—	25	Slea Head	S	17-Sep	Peter Bolger	Worms
L-S	—	25	Slea Head	S	16-Sep	Ronan Doherty	Ragworm
L-S	—	25	Donegal Bay	S	26-Sep	John Cunningham	Lugworm
L-S	—	25	Donegal Bay	S	04-Oct	John Cunningham	Ragworm
L-S	—	25	Dunquin	S	30-Jul	Craig Murphy	Crab
L-S	—	25	Dunquin	S	30-Jul	Stephen Maughan	Ragworm
L-S	—	25	Cork Harbour	B	05-May	Paul Twomey	Ragworm
L-S	—	24.5	Ardgroom	S	10-Sep	Nicholas Ward	Ragworm
L-S	—	24.5	Slea Head	S	17-Sep	Peter Bolger	Worms

CORKWING WRASSE CONTINUED...

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
L-S	—	24.5	Slea Head	S	17-Sep	Ronan Doherty	Ragworm
L-S	—	24.5	Dunquin	S	30-Jul	Craig Murphy	Ragworm
L-S	—	24.5	Ardgroom	S	01-Sep	Nicky McEvoy	Ragworm
L-S	—	24.5	Ardgroom	S	28-Aug	Nicky McEvoy	Ragworm



Corkwing Wrasse for Amy O'Brien (top left), Peter Bolger (top right), Nicky McEvoy (bottom left) and Sean Bannon



**CORKWING WRASSE CONTINUED...**

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
L-S	—	24	Cork Harbour	B	28-Mar	Paul Twomey	Ragworm
L-S	—	24	Cork Harbour	B	05-Jun	Sean Bannon (J)	Crab
L-S	—	24	Donegal Bay	S	04-Oct	John Cunningham	Lugworm
L-S	—	24	Dunquin	S	30-Jul	Stephen Maughan	Ragworm
L-S	—	24	Teelin	S	15-Jul	Noel Kennedy	Squid Strip
L-S	—	24	Allihies	S	05-Oct	Ian Mulligan	Ragworm
L-S	—	24	Beara Peninsula	S	28-Sep	Micheal Hennessy	Ragworm
L-S	—	24	Allihies	S	05-Oct	Ian Mulligan	Ragworm

**CUCKOO WRASSE**

**Record 2.438 lbs (1.105 kg); Specimen Weight 0.567 kg (1.25 lbs)**  
**Length – specimen (L-S) threshold  $\geq 35$  cm TL**

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
L-S	—	38	Larne Lough, Ballylumford	B	02-May	Michael McGimpsey	Mackerel
L-S	—	36.5	Islandmagee	B	22-Jul	Peter Ross	Mackerel
L-S	—	36	Larne Lough, Ballylumford	B	27-Aug	Michael McGimpsey	Mackerel Strip
L-S	—	36	Larne Lough, Ballylumford	B	27-Aug	Michael McGimpsey	Mackerel Strip
L-S	—	36	Belfast Lough	B	19-Sep	Terry Jackson	Mackerel Strip
L-S	—	36	Belfast Lough	B	19-Sep	Terry Jackson	Mackerel Strip
L-S	—	35.5	Islandmagee	B	09-Sep	Mark Todd	Mackerel

CUCKOO WRASSE CONTINUED...

WT (KG)	WT (LBS)	TL (CM)	VENUE	S/B	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
L-S	—	35.5	Belfast Lough	B	19-Sep	Terry Jackson	Mackerel Strip
L-S	—	35	Islandmagee	B	27-Jul	David Craig	Mackerel
L-S	—	35	Islandmagee	B	27-Jul	David Craig	Mackerel
L-S	—	35	Islandmagee	B	27-Jul	David Craig	Mackerel
L-S	—	35	Islandmagee	B	09-Sep	Mark Todd	Mackerel
L-S	—	35	Islandmagee	B	09-Sep	Mark Todd	Mackerel
L-S	—	35	Islandmagee	B	22-Jul	Peter Ross	Mackerel



Cuckoo Wrasse for Peter Ross fishing out of Islandmagee

Cuckoo Wrasse by Mark Todd





# Special Notices

## CLOSING DATE FOR SPECIMEN CLAIMS

Fully completed claims must be submitted by **31st October** each year. A charge of €10 applies for each claim (only Cyprinids) submitted for genetic analysis.

**Shad scales:** ongoing research into shad speciation indicates substantial inter-species complexity. For this reason genetic analysis of shad scales will not be undertaken for positive identification from 2022 onwards. Anglers are required to collect a scale sample which will be used for further research

## NEW SPECIES, SPECIMEN WEIGHT & LENGTH REVISIONS

Rules/species listed below were reviewed in 2022— details of changes for 2023 in table below. FL refers to Fork Length; TL refers to Total Length.

Rule/Species	Old rule	New rule (2023)	2023 Status
RECORD FISH	Records will be weight based only	Records will be weight based, but, newly listed species, or species without a record weight, can be length based.	Record claims for new species, or species without a weight record, can be length based from 2023 onwards.
ALL SPECIES ≤ 1 kg or ≤ 40 cm TL or FL	Weigh and claim in imperial or metric units	Weigh and claim in grammes (g) and cm/mm	For smaller species claiming in grammes (g) and cm/mm will allow for more accurate reporting
Porbeagle (≥ 180 cm FL)	Photograph of full fish on measuring mat showing actual FL	Fish to be measured in water alongside vessel with 180 cm mark clearly visible on measuring device	All specimens will be awarded as > 180 cm FL irrespective of actual length. Conservation and welfare-oriented rule.
Common skate	Named Common skate ( <i>Raja batis</i> ) in ISFC listings	Now Flapper skate ( <i>Dipturus intermedius</i> )	Two separate species (Flapper & Blue Skate) identified in this species complex in 2009 (Iglésias et al., 2009)

Species	Current Threshold	Revised	2023 Status
Red Gurnard	≥ 0.907 kg	≥ 45 cm TL	added length specimen option
Mackerel	≥ 1.0 kg	≥ 44 cm TL	added length specimen option
Thick Lipped Mullet	≥ 2.268 kg	≥ 55 cm TL	added length specimen option
Three bearded Rockling	≥ 0.794 kg	≥ 40 cm TL	added length specimen option
Torsk	≥ 2.5 kg	≥ 2.0 kg ≥ 40 cm TL	reduced weight and added length specimen option
Whiting	≥ 1.361 kg	≥ 54 cm TL	added length specimen option

## GEOGRAPHICAL LIMIT FOR CLAIMS

The geographical limit for claiming marine specimen fish is defined as the marine waters bound by the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland sectors of the European Economic Zone (EEZ), and on the north east coast by the midpoint between NI and the remainder of the United Kingdom landmass.

## WEIGHT BASED SPECIMENS

All fish must be weighed on scales which are verified for accuracy. **ALL elasmobranch (Dogfish, Sharks, Skates and Rays) claims (weight or length based), except Porbeagle require submission of a photograph showing the whole fish, measured on a measuring mat (with an end stop) or equivalent, with its length clearly discernible.** Photographs of whole fish on a measure is likely to be a requirement for all claims in the future.

**Weighing instruments and certification:** Retail outlet scales are checked regularly by officers of the Legal Metrology Service (National Standards Authority of Ireland) or their equivalent and are acceptable for weighing specimen and record fish. Club or personalised (i.e. scales not normally certified by the Weights and Measures Authority for trade purposes) can be certified for accuracy. Such scales, if certified by a reputable agency/company, are acceptable to the Committee. Certification will be valid for one year from the date of issue of the certificate of accuracy. The manufacturer's certificate of accuracy will not suffice. Weights from scales which are not certified at the time of weighing or certified in retrospect will not be accepted. Claims cannot be accepted in the case of fish which have been weighed on board a boat, **UNLESS WEIGHED ON A CERTIFIED MOTION-COMPENSATED BALANCE.**

**Weighing scales and minimum weight:** Scales must be appropriate to the size of fish being weighed. **The minimum weight permitted is 10 times the scale interval (or weighing division) to ensure that fish are weighed on appropriate scales.** This means that for scales with a 50g interval (or scale division) fish being weighed have to exceed 500g (1 lb 2 ozs) in weight. For a 2 oz interval a minimum weight of 20 ozs applies.

## LENGTH-BASED SPECIMENS

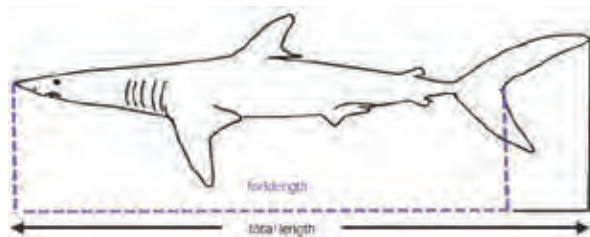
Fish must be measured on a recognised measuring device with an end stop and suitable graduations.

**Length-based claim procedure:** Claims must be made on current form and angler **MUST** specify if length-based.

The following evidence must accompany each length-based specimen claim:

- (a) Photograph(s) showing fish placed belly down (elasmobranchs) or side down (all other species) on a properly extended measuring device with snout against perpendicular bar or plate with the actual recorded length (cm) visible. The snout tip will index the 0 cm measurement accurately. Dorsal caudal lobe to be depressed into line with its body axis and total length measured as a point to point distance (not over the curve of the body) from the snout tip to the tip of the dorsal caudal lobe.
- (b) Sex of the fish. Males can be identified by their claspers (modified pelvic fins) which are thin elongated paired fins situated behind the pelvic fins. Females do not have claspers but have an opening between the pelvic fins.

Suitable devices (measuring mats) are available from IFI, IGFA or tackle manufacturers.



Threshold values for all length based specimens (and wingspan measurements for ray and skate) are shown. Wingspan to be measured by placing fish on measuring mat. All freshwater species should be measured to forklength (FL). All marine species must be given as total length (TL) except Blue and Porbeagle Shark (both FL)

Angel Shark, Common Skate, Porbeagle Shark, Undulate Ray and White Skate have been re-listed as length-based specimens only. The primary reasons for their re-listing are to (a) collect data on their distribution and status which is scientifically valuable and (b) to provide additional species for anglers to target as specimens. In re-listing these species, which have an exceptionally high conservation value, the ISFC requires that anglers handle them with the utmost care and that best practise is adopted for lifting and returning to the water. Fish slings or similar are recommended. Detail on exact capture locations (Latitude/Longitude) would contribute further to refining species distribution information but will not be published by ISFC.



**2.98 kg Thick Lipped Mullet for Ian Mulligan**

NEW RECORD CLAIMS

New records for established species will continue to be weight based; however, for newly listed species, or species without a record weight, the committee will accept length-based record claims.

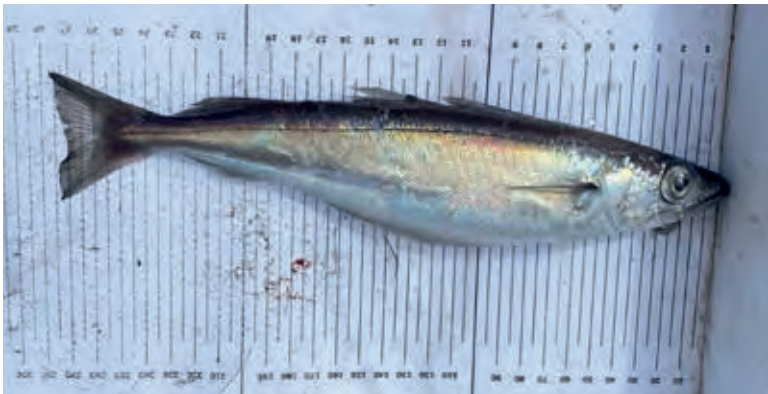
**Photographic evidence for new records:** A series of clear photographs must accompany all **record** fish claims, except in the few cases where a body (or presentation of the fish) is required for species identification. Photographs must show the whole fish lying on a flat surface and include a measure of scale (measurement mat, ruler). Preferably it should be photographed on a measuring mat or similar. Supplementary photographs showing the fish being weighed and the recorded weight would assist in further claim substantiation.

FISH SPECIES IDENTIFICATION

**Genetic fingerprinting of certain cyprinids:** To support claims for Roach, Rudd and their hybrids, anglers must submit 3 scales from a fish in a dry envelope (not in a plastic bag or tin foil) and good quality colour photographs. The entire fish on its side with, the dorsal and anal fins fully splayed, and close up photographs of the head (side on) are required for each fish claimed (full detail in table on the next page).

As genetic analysis of scales requires considerable time to process samples, anglers are requested to submit scale samples before 15th October.

Sample requirements for genetic analysis of selected cyprinids for species/hybrid determination			
Species	Sample required	Storage	Additional information
Roach, Rudd and their hybrids	3 scales	In an envelope with fish details and date	Good quality photographs required
<b>Notes:</b> As all fish can be returned alive please handle carefully. Allow envelope to dry out to preserve the sample. <b>Do not</b> store scales or tissue in plastic as sample will degrade.			



*Marc Doyle's Blue Whiting caught when fishing out of Baltimore in 2021*

### Guidance for anglers taking photographs for fish identification purposes:

Photographs are acceptable for claim verification **if they provide conclusive evidence of the identification of a fish species** (Rule 4). A list of some external identification features for particular species identification are presented below.

Photographs, which should be taken as soon as possible after the fish is captured, must be in focus, clear and in colour, printed on good quality paper and show the relevant identification features. Photographs should include the name of the angler and date of capture. Close up photographs are required for many features and these photographs should fill the entire frame.

Digital images submitted by DVD, CD or email must be tagged with angler name, fish species, weight, length and date of capture.

Species	Features to photograph (a) the whole body (lateral view) must be photographed for all species AND (b) the specific features detailed below
All cyprinids (Dace, Roach, Roach/Bream, Roach/Rudd, Rudd, Rudd/Bream)	Whole body; body with fins extended and close ups of: (a) mouth - closed (b) dorsal fin (c) full lateral line (d) anal fin Three scales to be taken
Angler Fish	Whole body; head area showing head appendages upright
Brill	Whole body; close up of skin
Cuckoo Wrasse	Whole body; lateral view, close up of head
Dab	Whole body; close up of skin and lateral line
Flounder	Whole body; close up of lateral line scales close to head
Golden Grey Mullet Thin-Lipped Mullet	Whole body and close ups of: (a) head including pectoral fin (lying flat) (b) mouth showing upper lip (c) underside of head
Grey Gurnard	Whole body; close up of lateral line and head
Thick Lipped Mullet	Whole body; close up of head showing upper lip (head-on), underside of head to back of gills
Herring	Whole body; keel of fish
Lesser Spotted Dogfish	Whole body; underside of head
Mackerel	Whole body; close up of stripes on back
Megrim	Whole body; head

Species	Features to photograph
	(a) the whole body (lateral view) must be photographed for all species AND (b) the specific features detailed below
Ray's Bream	Whole body; close up of head
All Gurnards	Whole body; detail of lateral line, head with pectoral fin fully expanded
Red Mullet	Whole body; close up of head
Scad	Whole body; close up of entire lateral line
Shad - Allis, Twaite & Hybrid	Whole body; three scales to be taken
Smooth-hound	Whole body and close ups of: (a) tail fin (b) underside of head showing mouth (c) back in region of dorsal fin
Three Bearded Rockling	Whole body; close up of head and lower jaw area, and close up of area in front of dorsal fin
Torsk	Whole body; close up of skin and dorsal and tail fin area

Additional details of important features are detailed in IFI's Fish Identification Guide  
<http://www.fisheriesireland.ie/Angling/angling-publications.html>



*Examples of close-up images required for cyprinid identification. Photograph of fish on measuring mat (or similar) which show general shape, position of fins and other features also required.*



## OTHER REQUIREMENTS

**Place of capture:** For freshwater species all claims must include the name of the water in which the fish was caught (e.g. Monalty Lake) and in the case of the larger systems, the area (e.g. River Shannon – Rooskey). For marine species taken by boat angling the port of origin and the place of capture (examples: Burford Bank, 5 km West of Stags Head or Smiths) should be stated.

**Metrification:** Claims will be accepted under the metric and imperial systems unless legislation dictates otherwise. Importantly, from 2023 onwards, ALL SPECIES  $\leq 1$  kg or  $\leq 40$  cm TL or FL, should be weighed and claimed in grammes (g) and cm. **Since** 2006, fish weights have been presented in kilogrammes in the Annual Report. Many anglers continue to use imperial measurements for fish and in 2010 ISFC decided to report in both metric (SI) and imperial metric systems.

**Length measurements on claim form:** A length measurement provides informative data about the species being claimed and additional verification information, and is requested for all species. Considerable length variation is evident for many species due to natural variability (time of year, sex, location, feeding etc) but it is likely that fish length measurement techniques are inconsistent also. Measurement mats are recommended to provide standardized measurements of specimen fish.

**Closed seasons:** Closed seasons apply to several species (e.g. brown trout, salmon, etc). Any fish taken in the closed season will not be ratified.

**Maximum number of claims per species:** A maximum of three (3) awards will be made to any particular claimant for any single species in any one year. If an angler achieves this target and subsequently captures a larger fish within the year, this fish can be claimed but the final number of awards for any species in a single year will not be more than three.

**Exclusion from specimen status (stocked fish):** Where species of fish are introduced to a fishery at or above the specimen weight, those species from that particular fishery will not be considered for specimen or record status. Escapees from fish farms in either freshwater or marine are also excluded.

## ADMINISTRATION

**Captors Addresses:** Because of difficulties in establishing eligibility for the 20 Species, 10 Species, 50 Specimen and 10 Specimen Awards, anglers are requested to inform the Committee of any changes in their address.

## ESTABLISHING A NEW SPECIMEN FISH CATEGORY

An important function of the ISFC is to act as a focal point for data collection on the occurrence of notable, rare or unusual species taken on rod and line in Irish waters. In some instances this has led to species previously regarded as “unusual” being added to the list of eligible species. Examples from recent years include smooth-hound (*Mustelus asterias*) and three bearded rockling (*Gaidropsarus vulgaris*), (from 1983), garfish (*Belone svetovidovi*) (from 1986), torsk (*Brosme brosme*) (from 1988), trigger fish (*Balistes carolinensis*) (from 1992), bluemouth (*Helicolenus dactylopterus*) (from 2002), albacore tuna (*Thunnus alalunga*) (from 2002), golden grey mullet (*Liza aurata* (Risso)) (from 2005), gilthead bream (*Sparus aurata* L.) (from 2007), blackmouthed dogfish (*Galeus melastomus*) (from 2008), black bream (*Spondyliosoma cantharus*) (from 2009), and thin lipped mullet (*Liza ramada*) from 2011.

To begin the process of attempting to establish a new specimen fish category, anglers **are requested to submit a completed claim form** for each fish captured. This is to establish a database for the species and enable further investigation and comparison of future claims. Claims for 10 fish of that species must be submitted for it to be considered for possible inclusion on the listings. The specimen weight will be set from this dataset and other relevant data. The record fish will be ratified after 5 fish exceeding specimen weight are ratified.

With some species a body may have to be forwarded for positive identification. Other arrangements would apply for larger fish. The availability of a body will allow the Committee to verify positive identification of the species and the claims will allow monitoring of numbers and weights of the species. This facilitates assessment of the likelihood of capture, the likely specimen weight and the availability and seasonality of the species. It is difficult to legislate for every situation that may arise but the final decision will rest with the Committee and will be based on a balanced review of the information available. While this process is progressing some details of interesting fish captured will be reported in the annual report.

## PRESENTATION OF 2021 AWARDS

The ISFC Awards Day Presentation was held on 5th November 2022 in a Dublin hotel.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

**Special acknowledgements:** Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI) continues to support and provide other services to the ISFC and is sincerely acknowledged. Sincere thanks to Myles Kelly and Shane O'Reilly, IFI, who manage the ISFC website, and ISFC auditor Michael Martin (IFI). ISFC Chairman, Dr Robert Rosell and Dr Steven Beggs (both AFBI) provide a specimen fish identification service for anglers in the northern part of Ireland and are thanked for their efforts. Bridie Fleming's (formerly IFI) support of ISFC activity is very much appreciated. Thanks to Eoin Leonard (IFI) for his time also.

Charter skippers, club members, guesthouse owners, tackle dealers and IFI staff who follow up claims and ensure that the necessary paperwork is attended to are gratefully acknowledged.

Special thanks are due to Rory Hanrahan, National Metrology Laboratory NSAI for his input in 2022 and previously. DNA analysis, undertaken by Dr. Jens Carlsson and Dr. Nettan Carlsson at UCD, has significantly advanced ISFC fish identification procedures for some species.

**Photographs:** Many photographs in this report are taken by anglers. They, along with charter skippers, fisheries staff and journalists, are acknowledged for these.



***Shore Rockling is a new species on ISFC listings from 2021 onwards***



***3 Bearded Rockling***

## DISTRIBUTION OF SPECIMEN AWARDS

Nationalities of anglers whose claims were ratified:

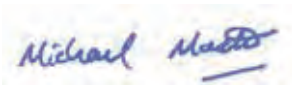
Year	Ireland	The Netherlands	United Kingdom	Germany	Belgium	France	Other	TOTAL
		(NL)	(UK)	(D)	(B)	(F)		
2005	432	62	52	10	7	4	1	568
2006	351	44	42	2	10	0	2	449
2007	424	56	28	6	12	2	2	530
2008	429	46	23	1	3	0	0	502
2009	470	39	15	5	0	0	2	531
2010	521	45	26	6	5	1	3	607
2011	519	50	14	0	3	0	1	587
2012	578	40	18	2	1	0	1	640
2013	536	41	11	5	1	0	1	595
2014	476	23	15	1	7	2	2	526
2015	422	12	8	0	4	0	1	447
2016	416	45	10	2	9	0	3	485
2017	346	22	8	—	2	—	4	382
2018	374	10	6	1	—	1	1	393
2019	480	22	6	4	—	—	1	513
2020	307	—	—	—	—	—	—	307
2021	471	3	—	—	1	—	—	475
2022	412	20	1	1	—	—	—	436

IRISH SPECIMEN FISH COMMITTEE ACCOUNTS

2020	Expenditure	2021	2020	Revenue		2021
€		€	€	Balance b/f from 2020	€	€
						25,824.26
29.90	Bank Fees & Stamp Duty	29.55	2337.59	Donation	1,023.89	
200.00	Medals & Awards	50.00	4,500	IFI Grant	4,500.00	
700.00	Miscellaneous	226.69				
3,635.87	Printing	3,222.99				
	<b>Total Expenditure 2021</b>	<b>3,529.23</b>		<b>Total Revenue 2020</b>		5,523.89
	Balance c/d	27,818.92				
		<b>31,348.15</b>				<b>31,348.15</b>
				Balance b/d		27,818.92

“The ISFC has prepared a revenue and expenditure account for 12 months ended 31st December 2021 based on the movements in the bank. Upon review of the financial records provided we are satisfied that this income and expenditure account accurately reflects the underlying transactions”

Signed:



M. Martin (Accountant)

## DONATIONS

The ISFC is a voluntary body and all of its activities are funded by grants/donations from diverse sources. All funders are gratefully acknowledged.

### Benefactors in 2022 were:

Inland Fisheries Ireland, Dept of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA); Delphi Fishery; **Peter Bolger**, Dublin 17; **John Boyle**, Tralee, Co. Kerry; **Noel Darcy**, Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny; **Donal Domeney**, Cork City; **Eric Gosnell**, Blackrock, Cork; **Christy Lane**, Dillons Cross, Cork; **Noel Lane**, Mayfield, Cork; **Nicky McEvoy**, Waterford City; **Bert McGregor**, St. Margarets, Co. Dublin; **John Millerick**, Kinsealy, Co. Dublin; **Joe Mulholland**, Dundalk, Co. Louth; **Karl O'Leary**, Limerick; **Jim Walsh**, Glencullen, Co. Dublin.



*Measuring Rudd/Bream Hybrid*

*Measuring Homelyn Ray disc width*



*Galway Bay Spurdog for regular Dutch visitor to Ireland, Rinus Hage*



*Bass for Declan Collins*



# IRISH RECORD FISH

## FRESHWATER SPECIES

Species	Weight lbs    ozs	Date of Capture	Place of Capture	Captor
Bream	6.07 kg	24.6.2012	Ballywillan Lough Fishery, Co. Down	Bryan Robinson
Carp	14.24 kg	26.10.2014	Loughgall, Armagh	Aaron Cummins
Dace	1    2	8.8.1966	River Blackwater, Cappoquin	John T. Henry
Eel	6    15	12.6.1979	Lough Droumenisa, Bantry	J. Murnane
Gudgeon	51.02 g	26.2.2022	Portna Canal	Terry Jackson
Perch	5    8	1946	Lough Erne	S. Drum
Pike (Lake)	42    12	25.9.2005	White Lake	Larry Kelly
Pike (River)	42	22.3.1964	River Barrow	M. Watkins
Roach	1.425 kg	6.10.2002	Drumacritten Lake	Terry Jackson
Roach/Bream Hybrid	3.376 kg	3.5.2013	Monalty Lake, Co. Monaghan	Jason Dingle
Roach/Rudd Hybrid	2.1 kg	5.5.2009	River Lagan, Co. Antrim	Terry Jackson
Rudd	4    8	5.9.1996	Coney Lake	Hugh Gough
Rudd/Bream Hybrid	7    10	19.10.1996	Monalty Lake	Brendan Doran
Tench	8.15	20.6.1995	Ballyeighter Lake	Nick Parry
Salmon	57	1874	River Suir	M. Maher
Brown Trout (Lake)	26    2	15.7.1894	Lough Ennell	Wm. Mears
Brown Trout (River)	20	22.2.1957	River Shannon, Corbally	Major Hugh Place
Sea Trout	16    6	29.10.1983	Shimna River, Co. Down	Thomas McManus

## MARINE SPECIES

Species	Weight lbs    ozs	Date of Capture	Place of Capture	Captor
Angler Fish	42.985 kg	3.11.1985	Belfast Lough	Sean Neill
Bass	17    13	21.10.2000	Doughmore Strand	Emmet Naughton
Black Bream	1.46 kg	17.9.2008	Kilmore Quay	Gordon Thornes
Black Sole	6.32	28.12.1986	Ballycotton	Eddie Cull
Bluemouth	1.32 kg	28.7.2008	Caherciveen	Sue Tait
Brill	9    8	8.9.1984	Causeway Coast	Deborah Gregg
Coalfish	15.1 kg	30.8.2003	Castletownshend	Roger Barham (UK)
Cod	42	1921	Ballycotton	I.L. Stewart
Conger Eel	72	June, 1914	Valentia	J. Green
Dab	2    5.5	2.10.2002	Cork Harbour	Mick Duff (UK)
Blackmouthed Dogfish	1.33 kg	10.8.2011	Red Bay, Co. Antrim	Jan Vrieswijk (NL)
Spur Dogfish	11.06 kg	3.6.2013	Red Bay, Co. Antrim	Tom Walsh
Greater Spotted Dogfish	23    13	17.09.2003	Kenmare Bay	Perry Dumay (NL)
Lesser Spotted Dogfish	4    4	26.7.1982	Valentia	Cor Heinis (NL)
Flounder	4.91	2.10.1993	Ballyteigue	Brian Russell
Garfish (B. belone)	1.729 kg	28.5.2007	Cork Harbour	Stephen O'Neill
Garfish (B. svetovidovi)	1.11	5.8.1994	Courtmacsherry	Eric Leijten (NL)
Gilthead Bream	3.742 kg	22.8.22	Rosscarbery	Robert Quin
Gilthead Bream	3.742 kg	10.7.22	Clonakilty Bay	David Brennan

**MARINE SPECIES (Contd.)**

Species	Weight		Date of Capture	Place of Capture	Captor
	lbs	ozs			
Tub Gurnard	12	3.5	8.8.1973	Bullsmouth, Achill	Robert Seaman
Grey Gurnard	3	1	21.9.1967	Rosslare Bay	Brendan Walsh
Red Gurnard	3	9.5	17.7.1968	Belmullet	James Prescott
Haddock	5.39	kg	21.2.2010	Union Hall	Tony Santry
Hake	25	5.5	28.4.1962	Belfast Lough	H. W. Steele
Halibut	156		23.7.1972	Belmullet	Frank Brogan
Herring	0.48	kg	17.9.2011	Red Bay, Co. Antrim	Hamish Currie
John Dory	7	8	12.8.1984	Killala Bay	Cleona Walkin
Ling	55		3.1.2004	Cork Harbour	Ailbhe O'Sullivan
Mackerel	4	2	18.9.1979	Ballycotton	Ulrich Plassmann (D)
Megrim	1.85	kg	26.7.1987	Killala	Paul Hennigan
Angel Shark (Monkfish)	73		1.6.1980	Fenit, Co. Kerry	James Boyd
Grey Mullet	9.10		26.9.1993	Cork Harbour	Cay Heerwagen (D)
Golden Grey Mullet	1.52		15.8.2018	Cork Harbour	Stephen O'Neill
Thin Lipped Mullet	2.95		15.7.2018	Cork Harbour	Noel Lane
Red Mullet	0.82	kg	20.9.2010	Kilmore Quay	Sue Tait
Plaice	8.23		23.1.1982	Ballycotton Pier	Edmund Cull
Pollack	19	3	1904	Ballycotton	J. N. Hearne
Pouting	4	13.5	2.4.1983	Kilmore Quay	John Devereaux
Thornback Ray	37		28.5.1961	Ling Rocks, Kinsale	M. J. Fitzgerald
Blonde Ray	37		10.10.2005	Cobh	Paul Tennant
Sting Ray	33.2	kg	19.5.1999	Tralee Bay	Michael Wall
Cuckoo Ray	5	11	3.8.1975	Causeway Coast	V. Morrison
Undulate Ray	18		11.6.1977	Fenit	Ann-Mari Liedecke (DK)
Homelyn Ray	8.28		28.9.1983	Cork Harbour	Edmund Cull
Painted Ray	17.21		29.8.1994	Garryvoe, Co. Cork	Edmund Cull
Electric Ray	40	kg	24.8.2002	Achill	Shay Boylan
Ray's Bream	6	4.25	26.8.1978	Valentia	Martin Sarney (UK)
Red Sea Bream	9	6	24.8.1963	Valentia	P. Maguire
Twaite Shad	1.64	kg	15.5.2015	St. Mullins	Thomas Lynch
Porbeagle Shark	365		1932	Keem Bay, Achill	Dr. O'Donel Brown
Blue Shark	206		7.10.59	Achill Head	J. McMonagle
Six Gilled Shark	480	kg	16.6.09	Carrigaholt	Joe Waldis
Common Skate	221		1913	Ballycotton	T. Tucker
White Skate	165		7.8.1966	Clew Bay	Jack Stack
Scad	1.97		6.9.1986	Clonakilty	Master R. McCarthy
Smooth-Hound	12.02	kg	25.7.2020	Wicklow	John Hughes
Stone Basse	6.07	kg	12.10.2021	Outer Cork Harbour	Jim Clohessy
Three Bearded Rockling	3	1	1.5.1990	Arklow	Maurice Laurent
Tope	34.02		3.10.2018	Greystones	Stephen Hanway
Torsk	4.858	kg	26.6.2006	Rosguill	Jan de Bakker (NL)
Trigger Fish	2.54	kg	7.9.2006	Slea Head	Bob Moss
Turbot	34		9.6.1982	Cork Harbour	Frank Fleming
Tuna – Albacore	29.96	kg	5.9.2007	Caherciveen	Henry McAuley
– Bluefin	440	kg	5.10.2001	Donegal Bay	Adrian Molloy
Whiting	4	14.5	19.3.1981	Kenmare Bay	Comdt. M. J. O'Connor
Ballan Wrasse	4.3	kg	20.8.1983	Clogher Head	Bertrand Kron (F)
Cuckoo Wrasse	2	7	15.9.1998	Causeway Coast	Brian McLoughlin

## **SCHEDULE OF SPECIMEN WEIGHTS AND LENGTHS**

(revisions for 2023 in bold)

	IRISH RECORD WEIGHT		SPECIMEN WEIGHT		LENGTH BASED SPECIMEN	SPECIES IDENTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS
	lbs	ozs	kg	lbs		
FRESHWATER FISH						
Bream ( <i>Abramis brama</i> )	6.07 kg		3.402	7.5		—
Carp ( <i>Cyprinus carpio</i> )	14.24 kg		5.9	13		—
Dace ( <i>Leuciscus leuciscus</i> )	1	2	0.3	0.66		Scales & photos
Eel ( <i>Anguilla anguilla</i> )	6	15	suspended from ISFC listing			
Gudgeon ( <i>Gobo gobio</i> )	51.02 g		35g	1.23 ozs	≥14cm Fork Length	Photograph on mat
Perch ( <i>Perca fluviatilis</i> )	5	8	1.2	2.646	≥40 cm Fork Length	Photograph on mat
Pike ( <i>Esox lucius</i> ) (Lake)	42	12	13.608	30	≥115cm Fork Length	—
Pike ( <i>Esox lucius</i> ) (River)	42		9.072	20	≥100cm Fork Length	—
Roach ( <i>Rutilus rutilus</i> )	1.425 kg		0.907	2		Scales* & photos
Roach/Bream Hybrid	3.376 kg		1.6	3.528		Scales* & photos
Roach/Rudd Hybrid	2.1 kg		0.9	1.98		Scales* & photos
Rudd ( <i>Scardinius erythrophthalmus</i> )	4	8	0.8	1.76		Scales* & photos
Rudd/Bream Hybrid	7	10	1.2	2.64		Scales* & photos
Tench ( <i>Tinca tinca</i> )	8.15		2.722	6	≥52cm Fork Length	—
Salmon ( <i>Salmo salar</i> )	57		9.072	20	≥90cm Fork Length	Scales
Brown Trout ( <i>Salmo trutta</i> ) (Lake)	26	2	4.536	10	≥75cm Fork Length	Scales
Brown Trout ( <i>Salmo trutta</i> ) (River)	20		2.268	5	≥57cm Fork Length	Scales
Sea Trout ( <i>Salmo trutta</i> )	16	6	2.722	6	≥64cm Fork Length	Scales
Slob Trout ( <i>Salmo trutta</i> )	—		4.536	10		Scales
* for genetic profiling						
SEA FISH						
Angel Shark ( <i>aka Monkfish</i> ) ( <i>Squatina squatina</i> )	73		No Specimen Weight		≥125cm Total Length	Photo on measuring mat
Angler Fish ( <i>Lophius piscatorius</i> )	42.985 kg		8.0	17.64		Body <sup>†</sup>
Bass ( <i>Dicentrarchus labrax</i> )	17	13	4.536	10	≥75cm Total Length	—
Black Sole ( <i>Solea solea</i> )	6.32		0.6	1.32		—
Black Bream ( <i>Spondyllosoma cantharus</i> )	1.46 kg		0.79	1.75	≥36cm Total Length	Body <sup>†</sup>
Bluemouth ( <i>Helicolenus dactylopterus</i> )	1.32 kg		0.9	1.98	≥38cm Total Length	Photo
Brill ( <i>Scophthalmus rhombus</i> )	9	8	1.6	3.53		Body <sup>†</sup>
Coalfish ( <i>Pollachius virens</i> )	15.1 kg		6.0	13.23	≥86cm Total Length	Photo
Cod ( <i>Gadus morhua</i> )	42		7.0	15.43	≥88cm Total Length	—

	IRISH RECORD WEIGHT		SPECIMEN WEIGHT		LENGTH BASED SPECIMEN	SPECIES IDENTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS
	lbs	ozs	kg	lbs		
Conger eel ( <i>Conger conger</i> )	72		18.144	40	≥165cm Total Length	–
Dab ( <i>Limanda limanda</i> )	2	5.5	0.6	1.32	≥37cm Total Length	Body†
Dogfish – Blackmouthed ( <i>Galeus melastomus</i> )	1.33 kg		1.0	2.205	≥67cm Total Length	Photo on measuring mat
Dogfish – Lesser Spotted ( <i>Scyliorhinus caniculus</i> )	4	4	1.474	3.25		Photo on measuring mat
Dogfish – Greater Spotted ( <i>Scyliorhinus stellaris</i> )	23	13	7.257	16	≥115cm Total Length	Photo on measuring mat
Dogfish – Spur ( <i>Squalus acanthias</i> )	11.06 kg		5.443	12	≥105cm Total Length	Photo on measuring mat
Flounder ( <i>Platichthys flesus</i> )	4.91		1.1	2.426	≥45cm Total Length	Body†
Garfish ( <i>Belone belone</i> )	1.729 kg		1.0	2.205	≥89cm Total Length	Head and gills
Garfish ( <i>Belone svetovidovi</i> )	1.11		0.3	0.66		Head and gills
Gilthead bream ( <i>Sparus aurata</i> )	3.742 kg		1.4	3.08	≥42cm Total Length	Photo (whole body, head shot showing mouth & eyes)
Gurnard – Grey ( <i>Eutrigla gurnardus</i> )	3	1	0.6	1.32	≥40cm Total Length	Body†
Gurnard – Red ( <i>Aspitrigla cuculus</i> )	3	9.5	0.907	2	≥ 45 cm TL	Body†
Gurnard – Tub ( <i>Trigla lucerna</i> )	12	3.5	2.0	4.41		Photo (pectoral fins must be fully expanded)
Haddock ( <i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i> )	5.39 kg		2.5	5.51	≥63cm Total Length	–
Hake ( <i>Merluccius merluccius</i> )	25	5.5	2.2	4.85	≥68cm Total Length	–
Halibut ( <i>Hippoglossus hippoglossus</i> )	156		12.0	26.46		–
Herring ( <i>Clupea harengus</i> )	0.48 kg		0.34	0.75		Body†
John Dory ( <i>Zeus faber</i> )	7	8	1.814	4		–
Ling ( <i>Molva molva</i> )	55		11.34	25	≥125cm Total Length	–
Mackerel ( <i>Scomber scombrus</i> )	4	2	1.0	2.205	≥ 44 cm TL	Body†
Megrim ( <i>Lepidorhombus whiffiagonis</i> )	1.85 kg		0.794	1.75	≥49cm Total Length	Body†
Mullet – Grey, thick lipped ( <i>Chelon labrosus</i> )	9.1		2.268	5	≥ 55 cm TL	Body†
Mullet – Golden Grey ( <i>Liza aurata</i> )	1.52 kg		0.68	1.5		Body†
Mullet – Thin Lipped ( <i>Liza ramada</i> )	2.95 kg		1.5	3.31		Body†
Mullet – Red ( <i>Mullus surmuletus</i> )	0.82 kg		0.4	0.88		Body†
Plaice ( <i>Pleuronectes platessa</i> )	8.23		1.2	2.65	≥48cm Total Length	–
Pollack ( <i>Pollachius pollachius</i> )	19	3	5.0	11.02	≥80cm Total Length	Photo
Pouting ( <i>Trisopterus luscus</i> )	4	13.5	1.361	3		–
Ray – Blonde ( <i>Raja brachyura</i> )	37		11.34	25	≥100cm Total Length	Photo on measuring mat
Ray – Cuckoo ( <i>Raja naevus</i> )	5	11	1.6	3.53	≥63cm Total Length	Photo on measuring mat

	IRISH RECORD WEIGHT		SPECIMEN WEIGHT		LENGTH BASED SPECIMEN	SPECIES IDENTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS
	lbs	ozs	kg	lbs		
Ray – Electric ( <i>Torpedo nobiliana</i> )	40 kg		9.072	20		Photo on measuring mat
Ray – Homelyn ( <i>Raja montagui</i> )	8.28		2.268	5	≥65 cm Total Length	Photo on measuring mat
Ray – Painted ( <i>Raja microcellata</i> )	17.21		4.536	10	≥80 cm Total Length	Photo on measuring mat
Ray – Sting ( <i>Dasyatis pastinaca</i> )	33.2 kg		13.0	28.66	≥90 cm Total Length	Photo on measuring mat
Ray – Thornback ( <i>Raja clavata</i> )	37		7.0	15.43	≥100 cm Total Length	Photo on measuring mat
Ray – Undulate ( <i>Raja undulata</i> )	18		No Specimen Weight		≥85cm Total Length	Photo on measuring mat
Ray's Bream ( <i>Brama brama</i> )	6	4.25	2.0	4.41		Body <sup>†</sup>
Red Sea Bream ( <i>Pagellus bogaraveo</i> )	9	6	1.0	2.205		—
Short-spined Sea Scorpion ( <i>Myoxocephalus scorpius</i> )					≥25cm Total Length	Photo on measuring mat
Shore Rockling ( <i>Gaidropsarus mediterraneus</i> )					≥30cm Total Length	Photo on measuring mat
Rockling, Three Bearded ( <i>Gaidropsarus vulgaris</i> )	3	1	0.794	1.75	≥40 cm TL	Body <sup>†</sup>
Scad ( <i>Trachurus trachurus</i> )	1.97		0.680	1.5	≥44cm Total Length	Body <sup>†</sup>
Shad – Allis ( <i>Alosa alosa</i> )	—		1.814	4		Scales
Shad – Twaite ( <i>Alosa fallax</i> )	1.64 kg				No Specimen Weight ≥50 cm TL	Scales
Shark – Blue ( <i>Prionace glauca</i> )	206		45.359	100	≥185cm Fork Length	Photo on measuring mat
Shark – Mako ( <i>Isurus oxyrinchus</i> )	—		90.718	200		Photo on measuring mat
Shark – Porbeagle ( <i>Lamna nasus</i> )	365		No Specimen Weight		≥180cm Fork Length	Photo on measuring mat
Shark – Six-Gilled ( <i>Hexanchus griseus</i> )	480 kg		45.359	100		Photo on measuring mat
Shark – Thresher ( <i>Alopias vulpinus</i> )	—		54.431	120		Photo on measuring mat
Skate – Common ( <i>Raja batis</i> )	221		No Specimen Weight		≥180cm Total Length	Photo on measuring mat
Skate – Long Nosed ( <i>Raja oxyrinchus</i> )	—		36.287	80		Photo on measuring mat
Skate – White ( <i>Raja alba</i> )	165		No Specimen Weight		≥180cm Total Length	Photo on measuring mat
Smooth–Hound ( <i>Mustelas asterias</i> )	12.02 kg		4.5	9.92	≥103cm Total Length	Photo on measuring mat
Stone Basse ( <i>Polyprion americanus</i> )	6.07 kg		3.628	8		—
Tope ( <i>Galeorhinus galeus</i> )	34.02 kg		18.144	40	≥155cm Total Length	Photo on measuring mat
Torsk ( <i>Brosme brosme</i> )	4.858 kg		2.0	4.409	≥ 40 cm TL	Body <sup>†</sup>
Trigger Fish ( <i>Balistes carolinensis</i> )	2.54 kg		1.474	3.25		Photo
Tuna – Albacore ( <i>Thunnus alalunga</i> )	29.96 kg		12.0	26.46		Photo
Tuna – Bluefin ( <i>Thunnus thynnus</i> )	440 kg		suspended from ISFC listing			
Turbot ( <i>Scophthalmus maximus</i> )	34		5.0	11.02		—
Whiting ( <i>Merlangius merlangus</i> )	4	14.5	1.361	3	≥ 54 cm TL	—
Wrasse, Ballan ( <i>Labrus bergylta</i> )	4.3 kg		2.154	4.75	≥48 cm TL	Photo
Wrasse, Corkwing ( <i>Symphodus melops</i> )			200 g		≥24 cm TL	Photo on measuring mat & head shots
Wrasse, Cuckoo ( <i>Labrus mixtus</i> )	2	7	0.567	1.25	≥35 cm TL	Photo

<sup>†</sup> N.B. Where species identification states body required, high quality photographs showing relevant identification features (see Rule 4) may suffice.

# IRISH SPECIMEN FISH COMMITTEE RULES

## PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

- (1) **IRISH SPECIMEN FISH COMMITTEE:** This Committee consists of representatives of the Irish Angling Federations and the Government Departments and official organisations interested in angling. Its objective is to verify, record and publicise the capture of large fish on rod and line in Irish waters. A list of Specimen Fish is published annually by the Committee. Only fish which can be fully vouched for as to weight and species can be accepted and listed by the Committee. Length-based specimens can be claimed for certain species (check listing). Except in exceptional circumstances, claims will remain valid for a period of one year following the year of capture.
- (2) **FAIR ANGLING:** "Fair Angling" means any legitimate method of angling with rod and reel which is recognised as a fair and sporting method. A fish must be hooked in or in the immediate vicinity of the mouth when it has taken the bait or lure; fish which have been foul-hooked, even accidentally, are not eligible. A fish in respect of which a claim is made must be hooked, played and landed by the angler **UNAIDED**, though the fish may be gaffed or netted by another, and it is permissible for the person using the gaff to take hold of the trace or doubled line (in the case of big game fishing) to steady the fish when it has been played out and brought within reach. If a fixed rod holder is in use while boat fishing, and a fish strikes, the rod must be removed from the holder as quickly as possible. This is to ensure that the angler hooks and plays the fish with rod in hand. Where a fighting chair is employed, it must not have any mechanically driven device which aids the angler in playing a fish. Body harnesses (which attach the rod to the body) are permissible but must not be fixed to the chair. Gimbals must be free swinging including those which move in the vertical plane. Gimbals which permit the angler to rest or reduce strain while playing a fish are prohibited. Breakage of rod, reel or line, or alteration or substitution of tackle, while a fish is being played, disqualify it for claim or record purposes. A fish may not be shot, lanced, clubbed or harpooned before landing. Claims for fish caught during the statutory close season for the species (where this applies) cannot be accepted.
- (3) **WEIGHING:** Fish must be weighed in the presence of independent, reliable witnesses on a properly certified scales, e.g., a shop scales or an official club scales which is covered by a calibration certificate from an appropriate service provider (e.g. NML). A weighing scales must be appropriate to the size of fish being weighed. **The minimum weight will be 10 times the scale interval (or weighing division).** Where weights are in large divisions (e.g. 1 lb/1 kg divisions) the weight of a fish must be rounded **DOWN** to the nearest actual division.

**Claims cannot be accepted in the case of fish which have been weighed on board a boat, UNLESS WEIGHED ON A CERTIFIED MOTION-COMPENSATED BALANCE.**

**Please note: All club and personal scales MUST be certified annually by an independent agency. Weighing scales must be covered by a Certificate of Accuracy at the time of weighing. They cannot be certified in retrospect, i.e. after the fish has been weighed.**

**For a length based specimen a photograph of the fish on a measuring mat or similar device must accompany the claim.**





- (4) IDENTIFICATION:** The identification of a fish must be fully documented where there is a possibility of confusion with another (and particularly larger) species. For this reason scales from the fish, high quality photographs (incl. close ups) or the actual body must be forwarded as actual proof of identification.

**FISH SCALES** must be submitted in respect of claims for **SALMON, SEA TROUT, BROWN TROUT** (including **SLOB TROUT**), **RUDD, ROACH**, and their hybrids, **DACE** and **SHAD**. Any brown trout taken in tidal waters, i.e., in the sea or in an estuary below the freshwater boundary as defined for that river will be regarded for claim purposes as a slob trout. About 10 scales gently removed from one shoulder of the fish should be sent with each salmonid claim. 3 scales are required from Roach and Rudd and their hybrids for genetic identification. Genetic identification is subject to a charge of €10 per claim to cover the analysis, and payment can be made on the ISFC website.

**CLEAR, SHARP, CLOSE-UP PHOTOGRAPHS**, showing the entire fish with its fins and other features easily seen, and not foreshortened or obscured by shadows or bystanders must be provided in the case of **ALL CYPRINIDS, ALL ELASMOBRANCHS, BLUEMOUTH, ANGEL SHARK, POLLACK, BALLAN WRASSE, TRIGGERFISH, COALFISH, ALBACORE, TUB GURNARD** (pectoral fins of gurnard must be fully expanded) **GILTHEAD BREAM** (whole body and head shot showing mouth and eyes).

**WHERE PHOTOGRAPHS ARE OF SUFFICIENT QUALITY TO PROVIDE CONCLUSIVE EVIDENCE** (i.e. key identification features clearly visible) to identify the following species: **ANGLER FISH, BRILL, DAB, LESSER SPOTTED DOGFISH, FLOUNDER, GREY & RED GURNARDS, HERRING, MEGRIM, MACKEREL, GREY MULLET, GOLDEN GREY MULLET, THIN-LIPPED MULLET and RED MULLET, RAYS BREAM, THREE BEARDED ROCKLING, SCAD, TORSK, CUCKOO WRASSE and BLACK BREAM**, the body is not required. If the angler is in doubt about image quality the body can be presented. Body (head and gills only) required for **GARFISH**.

> 99.5% of specimens requiring supporting material for identification are identified by scales, genetics or photographic evidence.

**RECORD FISH:** Claim must be supported by a series of clear photographs showing relevant features for positive identification and a clear indication of fish length (i.e. whole fish on a measurement mat or similar). New records for established species will continue to be weight based; however, for newly listed species, or species without a record weight, the committee will accept length-based record claims.

**(5) LIMITATION ON NUMBER OF CLAIMS:** A maximum of three (3) awards will be made to any particular claimant for a single species in any one year. If an angler achieves this target and subsequently captures larger fish, these will be taken into account but the final number of awards for any species in a single year will not exceed three. By including this latter provision, it will ensure that the anglers competitive spirit is kept up and higher achievements could still be sought.

**(6) SENDING FISH TO THE COMMITTEE:**

*Identification is mainly based on scale or photographic evidence but if a body is being forwarded please*

(1) notify the Committee when a fish is being sent in for identification.

Telephone: 01-884 2600.

E-mail: [isfc@fisheriesireland.ie](mailto:isfc@fisheriesireland.ie)

(2) do not forward fish to the Committee before Bank Holidays or weekends; (keep in a cold store or preferably frozen if fish cannot be delivered quickly on or before Friday afternoon).

(3) attach a label to each fish forwarded for identification giving the captor's name and address, date and place of capture and the weight of the fish.

(4) do not send fish in polythene bags or wrapped in aluminium foil as this causes rapid decomposition. Specimens should be wrapped in greaseproof paper and then in newspaper and brown paper.

**(7) AWARDS:** Anglers whose claims have been accepted by the Committee will be awarded special "Merit Badges" in the case of Specimen Fish and Silver Medals in the case of Record Fish. Specimen Fish Certificates will also be issued in respect of all ratified claims. Only one merit badge will be awarded to any angler per annum even where multiple claims are received. Specially commissioned awards are made to anglers for cumulative specimen fish captures of 20 species, 10 species, 50 specimens or 10 specimens. Other special awards are the Dr. Micheal Kennedy Award (Mullet of the year), the Dr. Arthur Went Award (Young Specimen Angler of the Year), the Minister's Award (Fish of a Lifetime), Best Length Specimen and the Best International Specimen Fish Award (for the best overseas angler specimen).

**CLAIM FORM SUBMISSION** – Completed claim forms should be sent to: The Irish Specimen Fish Committee, Inland Fisheries Ireland, 3044 Lake Drive, Citywest Business Campus, Dublin 24, Rep. of Ireland (Tel. 00-353-1-884 2600) before 31st October every year. Where required for identification purposes (see Rule 4) fish should be sent to the same address. Scales from shad and cyprinid hybrids for genetic analysis must be forwarded to ISFC before 15th October.

For marine fish taken in Northern Ireland contact Dr. Steven Beggs, AFBINI,  
Newforge Lane, Belfast BT9 5PX, Ph: +44 (0) 28 9025 5503.  
Email: [steven.beggs@afbini.gov.uk](mailto:steven.beggs@afbini.gov.uk)

For freshwater fish taken in Northern Ireland contact Dr. Robert Rosell, AFBINI, Newforge  
Lane, Belfast BT9 5PX. Tel: +44 (0) 28 9025 5236,  
Fax: +44 (0) 28 9025 5004.  
Email: [robert.rosell@afbini.gov.uk](mailto:robert.rosell@afbini.gov.uk)



*Albacore Tuna 27.9 kg, Kinsale, 22 August 2021, Patrick Mostyn, Cork*



*Martin O'Neill's Tope from Wicklow*



*Tope for Alex Pozuvanskis*



*Oliver O'Neill (right) with his Wicklow Tope alongside skipper Kit Dunne*



***Duncan Cole with his well-conditioned 100cm Pike from the River Blackwater (Tyrone) in September 2022.***

## **IRISH SPECIMEN FISH COMMITTEE**

### ***Some important points for claiming specimen fish:***

1. Use official ISFC claim form and complete **ALL** relevant sections fully.
2. **Tick box** to specify any length based claim.
3. **ALL** record fish, **ALL** length based claims and **ALL** skates, rays, sharks and dogfish **MUST** include a good quality photograph of the fish length (nose to tail) on a measuring mat or similar.
4. **Weighing:** Fish **MUST** be weighed (on land) on **CERTIFIED** scales or on a shop scales. Fish cannot be weighed on board a boat.
5. **Weighing scales must be certified annually** by a competent independent authority and the calibration certificate must be current at time of weighing.
6. **Check ISFC claim rules Section 4** for inclusions for some species (e.g. fish scales, additional photographs etc).
7. Claim form **MUST** be signed and witnessed.

